# Daily Report

# Latin America

FBIS-LAT-91-102
Tuesday
28 May 1991

# Daily Report
## Latin America

FBIS-LAT-91-102 28 May 1991

CONTENTS

**NOTICE TO READERS:** An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.


**INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

FMLN, FSLN Reaffirm Solidarity, Laud Friendship *[Managua TV]* ..... 1
Aylwin Addresses Human Rights Meeting *[Santiago TV]* ..... 1
Provisional President Named *[Santiago TV]* ..... 1
Caribbean To Receive Lome IV 90 Million ECU's *[Bridgetown CANA]* ..... 2

**CARIBBEAN**

**Cuba**

Cubavision TV Carries Castro ANAP Speech *[Havana TV]* ..... 3
GRANMA Reacts to Bush, Aronson Speeches *[Havana TV]* ..... 9
Accords on Troop Withdrawal From Angola Signed *[Havana TV]* ..... 11
Final Group of Internationalists Leaves Angola *[Havana TV]* ..... 12
Fidel, Raul Welcome Contingent *[Havana TV]* ..... 12
Malmierca Greets Combatants *[Havana TV]* ..... 12
Fidel Awards Vets, Praises Agrarian Mobilization *[Havana TV]* ..... 12
Castro Meets With Havana Cooperatives, Farmers *[Havana Radio]* ..... 13
Farmers Make Pledge *[Havana Radio]* ..... 13
Alarcon Opposes UN Human Rights Recommendation *[Havana TV]* ..... 13

**Inter-Caribbean Affairs**

CANA Presents Reform Package to Caricom *[CANA]* ..... 13
Scarcity of Funds Demands Better Management *[CANA]* ..... 14
West Indian Commission Closes 3-Day Hearings *[CANA]* ..... 15
West Indian Commission Condemns Imported TV *[CANA]* ..... 15
OECS Trade With Guadeloupe, Martinique Viewed *[CANA]* ..... 16
Human Rights Activist Recommends Regional Regime *[CANA]* ..... 16
Report on Bahamian Concern About Haitians *[CANA]* ..... 17
Caribbean Leaders Condemn Gandhi Killing *[CANA]* ..... 18

**Antigua and Barbuda**

Agreement Signed With European Community *[CANA]* ..... 18
UNDP Elects New Leader, General Secretary *[CANA]* ..... 19

**Bermuda**

Majority of Hoteliers Accept Wage Settlement *[CANA]* ..... 19
More on Settlement *[CANA]* ..... 19

**Dominica**

Government Proposes 'Economic Citizenship' *[CANA]* ..... 20
Gandhi Death Seen as Loss to World Community *[CANA]* ..... 20

**Dominican Republic**

AMD Intensifies Strike, More Services To Halt *[Santo Domingo Radio]* ..... 20
Three Cuban Artists Seek Asylum, Condemn Castro *[Santo Domingo Radio]* ..... 20

**Grenada**

UN Child Protection Declaration Signed *[CANA]* ..... 20

**Haiti**

Central Bank Report Notes Economic Improvement *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* ..... 21
Aristide Questions Irregularities at Tax Office *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* ..... 21
Popular Organizations Propose Economic Plan *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* ..... 22
FNCD Calls 'Legal Hat' Statement Betrayal *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* ..... 22
Justice Minister Visits National Penitentiary *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* ..... 22

**Jamaica**

Manley Defends Economic Policy of Liberalization *[CANA]* ..... 23
Opposition Leader on Manley Economic Policies *[CANA]* ..... 23
Financial Strike Suspended, Talks To Begin *[CANA]* ..... 24

**MEXICO**

Salinas Discusses Trade Negotiations With U.S. *[NOTIMEX]* ..... 25
Commerce Secretary on Treaty *[Mexico City TV]* ..... 25
PRI on Voting on Agreement *[NOTIMEX]* ..... 26
Various Reactions Viewed *[Mexico City TV, etc]* ..... 26
Agreement Viewed With Canadians *[Mexico City TV]* ..... 26
Mexico Admitted Into Pacific Basin Group *[Mexico City TV]* ..... 27
Foreign Secretary on Admission *[Mexico City TV]* ..... 27
President Salinas Appoints New Attorney General *[NOTIMEX]* ..... 27

**CENTRAL AMERICA**

**El Salvador**

FMLN-Government Talks Resume in Caracas *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 28
Commentary Outlines Requirements for Cease-Fire *[Radio Farabundo Marti]* ..... 28
Reforms Necessary *[Panama City ACAN]* ..... 29
Commentary Views Remarks by U.S. Official *[Radio Farabundo Marti]* ..... 29
Attack Noted; Arena Says No Reform Dialogue *[Mexico City NOTIMEX]* ..... 30
Army Reportedly Attacks Human Rights Group *[Radio Venceremos]* ..... 30
Army Reportedly Stops International Delegation *[Radio Farabundo Marti]* ..... 31

**Guatemala**

Heavy Clashes Between Army, Rebels Reported *[Mexico City NOTIMEX]* ..... 31
Columnist Views Cuba's Role in Negotiations *[PRENSA LIBRE 22 May]* ..... 32

**Honduras**

Cinchonero Unit Attacks Former Insurgent Leader *[Panama City ACAN]* ..... 32
Commander Rejects 'Meddling' in Political Affairs *[EL HERALDO 24 May]* ..... 33

**Nicaragua**

President Reiterates Policy on Return of Property *[AFP]* ..... 33
Teachers, Government Negotiate To End Strike *[Managua Radio]* ..... 33
Students Continue Support *[Managua Radio]* ..... 34
Action To Remove Students Noted *[Managua Radio]* ..... 34
H. Ortega's Candidacy for President Viewed *[EL NICARAGUENSE 20-26 May]* ..... 35
Government Minister Discusses Washington Trip *[Managua TV]* ..... 35

### Panama

PDC Analyzes Government Economic Plan *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 24 May]* ..... 35
Endara on Criticisms *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 23 May]* ..... 39
Remarks Called 'Political' *[Panama City TV]* ..... 39
Reaction to Plan Reported *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, etc]* ..... 40
Columnist on Martinez, Legal Assistance Treaty *[EL SIGLO 24 May]* ..... 40
Torrijos Reportedly Ordered Gallegos Killed *[Panama City Radio]* ..... 41

## SOUTH AMERICA

### Argentina

CNEA President Advocates Continuing Research *[TELAM]* ..... 42
* Legal Background to Border Issue With Chile *[LA PRENSA 1 Apr]* ..... 42

### Bolivia

Spanish Foreign Minister Continues L.A. Tour *[Madrid Radio]* ..... 44
Meets With Iturralde *[Madrrid Radio]* ..... 44
Moreira Pledges To Support Constitution *[La Paz TV]* ..... 44

### Brazil

Iraq Seeks Resumption of Trade Relations *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 25 May]* ..... 44
Collor Addresses Cabinet Meeting 23 May *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* ..... 45
Strike Command Admits Failure of General Strike *[O GLOBO 24 May]* ..... 48
Government Says Strike Failed *[Brasilia Radio]* ..... 48
* April Industrial Production Up in Some Sectors *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 26 Apr]* ..... 48

### Chile

Communique Reports Pinochet To Return Today *[Santiago Radio]* ..... 49
Notes Satisfaction With Tour *[Santiago Radio]* ..... 49

### Colombia

Justice Minister on Escobar, U.S. Extradition *[Bogota TV]* ..... 49
Police Suspend Arrest Operations for Escobar *[Bogota Radio]* ..... 50
Serpa To Resign Constituent Assembly Presidency *[Bogota TV]* ..... 50
Assembly Ratifies Serpa *[Bogota TV]* ..... 51
Assembly To Redouble Work To Meet Deadline *[Bogota Radio]* ..... 51

### Paraguay

President Congratulates People, Parties *[Asuncion Radio]* ..... 51
Parties Reject Elections Due to Irregularities *[Asuncion TV]* ..... 52
OAS Election Observers Release Communique *[ABC COLOR 27 May]* ..... 53
Candidate Charges Voter List Tampering *[Asuncion TV]* ..... 53
New Industry Minister, Petropar President Named *[Asuncion Radio]* ..... 54

### Peru

Fujimori Confirms Intervention of Exchange Rate *[Lima Radio]* ..... 54
Prime Minister Questioned on Drug Accord *[Lima Radio]* ..... 54
Bolivian Foreign Minister Arrives for 3 Days *[Lima TV]* ..... 54
Shining Path Company Commander Arrested in Lima *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 55
Bomb Explodes at Economy Ministry; No Casualties *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 55
Bombs Damage U.S.-Peruvian Cultural Institute *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 55
* Teachers 'Missing' Due To Terrorism in Junin *[EXPRESO 15 Apr]* ..... 55
* Fujimori's Counterterrorist Role Draws Response *[EXPRESO 19 Apr]* ..... 56

* Plan To Arm Peasant Patrols Prompts Reaction *[CARETAS 22 Apr]* ..... 57
* State of Emergency Extended in Departments *[EL COMERCIO 24 Apr]* ..... 57

**Uruguay**

Minister Resigns, Causes 'Political Crisis' *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 58
Juan Andres Ramirez Named as Health Minister *[Montevideo Radio]* ..... 58

**Suriname**

Elections Office Releases Unofficial Results *[Paramaribo Radio]* ..... 58
New Front Victory Announced *[AFP]* ..... 58
Results Detailed *[AFP]* ..... 58
NDP Leader on Results *[Paramaribo Radio]* ..... 59
Observers Call Elections 'Clean' *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 59
Coalition Doubtful *[Paramaribo Radio]* ..... 59

## FMLN, FSLN Reaffirm Solidarity, Laud Friendship

*PA2505233191 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 May 91*

[From the independent "Extravision" newscast, directed by Manuel Espinoza, former information minister under the Ortega administration]

[Text] Joaquin Villalobos and Shafik Handal, commanders of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], met this morning with Commanders Daniel Ortega, Henry Ruiz, and Bayardo Arce, of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Directorate.

[Begin Ortega recording] Once again we have reaffirmed the FSLN's solidarity with the Salvadoran people, the FMLN, and our support for their efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict. [end recording]

The FMLN leaders lauded the history of friendship that exists between the two revolutionary organizations.

[Begin Villalobos recording] There are deep changes about to unfold in El Salvador as a result of the negotiations and of 10 long years of fighting. During these past 10 years we have enjoyed the consistent and firm solidarity of the FSLN. This is the first time in 10 years that we have had the opportunity to publicly state before the Nicaraguan people that the FSLN has never failed us. As a result of the changes that have been occurring in the region and are now occurring in El Salvador, we are getting closer to reaping the benefits of peace and democratic changes in Central America. [end recording]

## Aylwin Addresses Human Rights Meeting

*PY2605212691 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] This morning President Patricio Aylwin addressed the preparatory meeting for the creation of the Latina American Interparliamentary Human Rights Commission. Representatives from 11 countries attended the meeting which took place in the old Congressional building, currently the seat of the Foreign Ministry.

President Aylwin began by fervently recalling the 150 years that the building had been the seat of Congress. He also recalled former Presidents Eduardo Frei, Jorge Alessandri, and Salvador Allende, and he hoped that the Senate will once again have its seat in this historic building.

Alywin stated that human rights are the basic goal of democracy. He stated that Latin American countries, to a greater or lesser degree, have had to suffer regimes that have not only not respected human rights, but have also violated them.

Moreover, he said, today Latin America is experiencing a stage in which freedom and democracy reign once again and, consequently, respect for human dignity. Thus, today's challenge is to make this spirit a stable and permanent reality.

[Begin Aylwin recording] Respect for human rights, therefore, demands that we coordinate efforts. In each country there must be strict vigilance so that human rights are respected. Everyone must cooperate to ensure that this happens, not only in one country, or in two, or in five, or in 20, but in every country, because the violation of human rights in one country will be the beginning of a plague or disease that can infect other countries. [end recording]

Aylwin also referred to the human rights violations committed in the past. He said that there is a double challenge: first to give assurances that they will no longer occur and second to make amends and do justice for the crimes that were committed. He noted the task performed by the Rettig commission, adding that despite the fact the report was controversial, no one can deny the truth of the human rights violations noted in the commission's report. He says that the truth, which implies a sort of justice, does not resolve all the problems. It is necessary to clarify the actions and to punish the culprits. This is a legal and a political problem which we should not sidestep.

[Begin Aylwin recording] The problem is: On what should we mainly concentrate—on the punishments to be imposed for the crimes committed in the past or on the future stability of the political system? The situations that were confronted in some countries of the Continent, [illegible] some friendly nations, reveal that the efforts to severely punish crimes committed in the past jeopardize the stability of the institutional system. We have to combine the demand for justice, which is matter of conscience, with the demand for the stability of the democratic system, which is the major guarantee against human right violations in the future. [end recording]

## Provisional President Named

*PY2705141891 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] The Latin American Interparliamentary Human Rights Commission [Comision Interparlamentaria Latino Americana de Derechos Humanos] has been created through an initiative sponsored by the Chilean Congress. The commission's provisional leadership will be headed by Chilean Deputy Maria Maluenda.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Congressional representatives from 11 Latin American countries spent three days exchanging ideas and creating a commission which will have the job of defending human rights on the Continent.

One of the commission's first tasks will be to have all the countries of the area adjust their legislation to existing international treaties and conventions on human rights. The commission will also actively cooperate in checking on human rights violations.

Enrique Bernales, president of the UN Human Rights Commission, commented on the creation of the commission, saying that the defense of human rights responds to humanitarian and not political reasons and that human rights should therefore not be used for political purposes.

[Bernales] Human rights are acknowledged to protect people, in a universal sense. The interests, positions, and sometimes even passions of politics must be subordinate to respect for human rights.

[Reporter] The commission's permanent headquarters will be in Chile but, at the request of Haitian congressmen, its first meeting will be held in Haiti in four months. [end recording]

## Caribbean To Receive Lome IV 90 Million ECU's

*FL2705180291 Bridgetown CANA in English 1644 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, May 26, CANA—The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) has drawn up projects totalling 14.7 million European Currency Units (approximately EC 47 million dollars) for funding under the Lome IV regional programme, informed sources said.

The Caribbean region will receive 90 million ECU's in grants under the Lome IV regional programme funded by the European Community. These funds will be shared between Caribbean Community (Caricom) states, Suriname, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. The sources said an estimated 30 percent of the funds, or 27 million ECU's had been earmarked for agriculture.

At their meeting in Antigua last weekend, OECS agriculture ministers were informed that profiles for three projects had already been drawn up. These projects include 8.0 million ECU's for agriculture diversification support, 0.37 million ECU's for industrialisation of bananas, and 6.3 million ECU's for fisheries development.

'In addition, one of the projects being sumbitted under the transportation sector by the Caricom secretariat seeks to provide direct support for the OECS agriculture diversification programme,' the sources said. The Lome Agreement covers economic cooperation between the European Community and the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) group of developing countries.

## Cuba

### Cubavision TV Carries Castro ANAP Speech

*PA2705034391 Havana Cubavision Television in Spanish 2330 GMT 19 May 91*

[Speech by President Fidel Castro at a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the National Association of Small Farmers, ANAP, Peasant's Day, and the 32d anniversary of the Agrarian Reform Law, at the 17 May Cooperative in Quibican, Havana on 17 May—recorded]

[Text] Dear Comrades: Do not be frightened thinking that I am going to deliver a long speech here. Comrade Lugo was telling me yesterday that the ceremony would be held at 1730 and he invited me to participate. I asked at what time it would be held and he said at 1730. I said: Do not worry because I will be there at 1730.

It is a simple celebration. I would say it befits these times. It is the 30th anniversary of the ANAP, is that not so? And how many years since the agrarian reform? [ANAP President Orlando Lugo Fonte responds: Thirty-two] Thirty-two. You did not mention it. You forgot about the agrarian reform. You only remembered the ANAP. I was telling [Victorino] Lemus [first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba in Havana Province], Lemus, there is also the other anniversary, of the Agrarian Reform Law.

That is why I was saying these are two very important anniversaries. We are marking them with simplicity in line with these times and the need to work. I was thinking everyone worked until 1730 today, 17 May, because we cannot lose an hour, not even a minute, especially during these times. In spite of this, the date is no less important for us inasmuch as the revolution began with the Agrarian Reform and the big, extensive, and incessant changes that have taken place in our countryside. Lugo mentioned some of them when he talked about schools, hospitals, roads, and housing, when he talked about electricity, which today has reached practically everywhere, including the mountains. When cables do not reach, a mini-power plant is built to solve the situation. That is a more reliable [chuckles] source because it does not need fuel. He could have mentioned many other things but they were not mentioned because of the short time we have. For example, all the technical assistance, the credits, the support given to the peasants every time there was a disaster, pests, hurricane, or vast flooding.

Peasants were never forgotten, and we can say that, in general, our peasants are lacking nothing. Many things are guaranteed to them, considering our limitations. Above all, they have freedom, dignity, participation in the work of the revolution—which at this time has turned into a work of universal historic importance—and the defense of the most just ideas. It involves us in all those dreams our liberators fought for. Our peasants participated in them in a very decisive way. I am referring to the wars for independence and the latest struggles for national liberation.

As Lugo was saying, we are now going through the special period. We face many limitations. Of course, in the last 48 hours, I have spent 16, 17 hours with the peasants. I met with agriculture workers and managers. On 15 May, we had a national meeting about livestock that lasted 11 hours. All the managers of livestock enterprises of the country were present, basically the milk and meat producers, as the state has a large presence in it. Comrade Lugo and the ANAP representatives were also present at the meeting, at which we analyzed the problems. We were discussing what to do in a situation in which we have a third of the fertilizers we normally had, what to do when we do not have mixed feed. We do not have mixed feed, we do not have grain. We were discussing what to do when we are receiving the equivalent of 400 fewer liters of milk per year than we used to receive through the GDR, with which we had agreements to exchange torula yeast for powdered milk as a result of investments we made there, and what we should do with large amounts of milk that also came as condensed milk, powdered milk, or butter.

We used to receive 16,000 tons of milk from the USSR, and we no longer receive them. What should we do to solve the problems precisely when we have less fertilizer than ever and less grains for mixed feed, and when the resources to obtain those goods in other places are very scarce. It is a very complicated and difficult problem, but nobody is discouraged here by the complications or difficulties.

In that meeting we analyzed and discussed the situation and implemented a number of measures. They were not measures in the abstract, but ones using our experiences, using the experiments conducted in our research centers and our countryside. Our revolution has developed a type of mixed feed from sugarcane which is called sacharina. That is the end product from very recent research results.

Our revolution already has some leguminous plants which have also been tested recently, such as wisteria and leucaena, to give two examples. Our revolution has had for some years the ideas and experiences of Guasan's rational grazing. Guasan was a distinguished French agricultural specialist and researcher who, as a matter of fact, died in our country. His books were published and distributed here in the early days. Of course, that was when our country did not have the number of engineers and technicians it has today. The techniques are much more developed now. They are much better known.

So, we are going to face the livestock-related problems, the lack of fertilizers and grains, mainly with the implementation of an improved system of rational grazing. We already have over 300 units working with the improved rational grazing system. That requires materials. It requires electric fences, although we need at least 60 or 70 corrals [cuartones]. You can imagine the

number of posts and the amount of wire. We need a colossal amount, but we get to have the electric fence. We are already making the electric fence equipment. We spend about $30 and buy components for the electric fences. We later use a galvanized wire that we developed here after getting the raw material.

We intend to implement the rational grazing system in over 6,000 units from now to the end of the year. In the first place, we will do that at the dairy farms, all the dairy farms. As I told you a minute ago, the electric fence is essential so that we do not have to fill the cattle farms with fences. We need to place posts at a certain distance from each other and one wire takes the electric current and gives the little cow a little electric shock. Pretty soon the cow learns not to go over the fence. Of course, knowledgeable people are required for that, people to make the calculations, skilled laborers such as the ones we already have on our cattle farms. They need to know where and when to move the herds. The most important thing is that the entire herd goes over the area and does not leave any grass. Scientists say all types of grass are good but animals select them on their own. If the herds are taken through an area in three or four groups for three or four days or less, they eat all the grass.

They also fill the soil with manure, which serves as fertilizer, and with urine, which also serves as fertilizer. If a certain level of humidity—which is not good for other crops—in the air is added, it makes the grass grow. That perfected system doubles the number of animals per hectare and increases milk and meat production. Our problem is to build the electric fences and place all the posts. Our problem is to train the staff that has to direct the grazing. Our problem is to obtain the wire. There is electricity almost everywhere, but our problem is also to develop small mechanisms that can produce electricity from the wind for the electric fence. That could practically double the quantity of food currently produced by our pastures. Those are tremendous resources to use during and after the special period.

That is not the only thing we are doing. We are already developing leguminous plants for what we call protein banks. A cow that can eat a ration of wisteria or leucaena can produce up to 10, 11, and 12 liters without mixed feed. Of course, we are increasing that quickly. We had a few caballerias, a few tons last year. We produced about 10 tons. Now we produce about 100. We are going to have over 1,000 caballerias of wisteria. We would need much more. Together with the leucaena we will have a total of perhaps 2,000 caballerias this year. Next year, we can plant 10,000 as we collect seeds. We collect seeds from each one of these crops and we later give it to the cattle. We give the cattle the rest of the pasture. We do that at full speed. We are not going to stop collecting a single wisteria and leucaena seed while we study other leguminous plants. That is our second resource, and it is an important resource because, in addition, leguminous plants produce nitrogen. Leguminous plants get mixed with a bacteria in the soil that gets nitrogen from the air. It does not have to be produced industrially. It does not have to be transported. They enrich the soil with nitrogen and enrich the grass with protein, which is essential for the production of milk. That is the second resource.

The third resource is extremely important—the sacharina I mentioned before. We plan to plant at least one caballeria of sugarcane on each cattle farm. We plan to plant one caballeria and more in some cases. We are going to have more land if grass yields twice as much and we can plant sugarcane. We can fertilize that cane with the cattle manure. Without many problems, we can produce 90,000 or 100,000 arrobas per caballeria. We should plant good cane. We already have part of it. The idea is to have an area planted with sugarcane in each cattle farm. You, the ones who are members of this cooperative, know what the sugarcane yields. You do not have the vanguard status for nothing. You know that sometimes it yields over 100,000 arrobas.

We plan to have a little machine on each cattle farm and a little engine to mill the cane. We then mix it with urea and other mineral salts. A fermentation process takes place in 24 hours. That enriches cane with protein. That is in addition to the calories and the fiber sugarcane has, which is the reason why cattle like it so well, so much so in fact that every time they can get loose they slip into a sugarcane field. That is processed cane. We plan to make over 6,000 little machines, which we are already making here, to mill the cane. We are planning to buy the engines. We are discussing whether to use electricity or diesel. We are making all the estimates regarding fuel spending, how much the electric engine costs from the time the fuel is taken to the thermoelectric power plants, electricity is produced, it is transmitted, and it is converted into mechanical energy again. We are trying to figure out above all what is the most practical thing: the electrical engine or the other one. That is being studied these days; they are going to have all the conclusions for us. I was going to tell you earlier that we are going to build 4,000 electric fences. We have already produced a certain amount. We are going to have 1,000 in reserve; 1,000 electric fences in reserve.

So, we will have these three resources. You know that if you have a caballeria with 100,000 arrobas, then you can give each cow 25 or 30 arrobas of milled cane enriched with protein, which is developed with this fermenting process, if you add the mineral salts I referred to earlier to the cane. Thirty pounds of cane for a cow that is also eating grass and some leguminous plants is considerable. There will be fresh grass that the cow itself in a certain way has fertilized and irrigated when the herd went by.

Of course, it is very important to take water to each corral, and we have also studied the solution to that through the use of tanks of water which a team of oxen can pull every day. There is something more: hoses to take plenty of water. It is important that cows have plenty of water. Part of that water is consumed by cows but another part returns to the soil. The cow turns into an irrigation machine. It irrigates cubic meters of soil

without spending fuel. We are going to make a few thousand kilometers of hoses—perhaps 10,000 or more—to take water to each corral in an economical way. There are plans to build dams, tanks, wells of various types, brand new ones and we are going to make a few thousand to transport water. You can see that an arroba of cane a day can be given to 900,000 animals with 3,000 caballerias of cane. Assuming the cattle farm has 300 animals in the cattle farm, many times there are less than that. There are cattle farms with 120 cows. We are also going to take the concept of an integral cattle farm so that calves, heifers, and bulls are raised there up to a certain age.

A man can cut 300 arrobas of cane a day. There is no need to use a machine there. Some 3,000 men can take care of that arroba for 900,000 animals. We discussed those plans at length. We worked on them. They are already being implemented. All the appropriate organizations are implementing them. An attempt is being made to get at least 6,000 units—not only cattle farms but calf-raising centers and others—to implement all these techniques by 31 December. That includes the electric fence and the rational grazing system. We are estimating the number of posts that need to be built. We are going to use some of the existing ones. The periphery fence will be the only one left. We need the posts and we need to place them to install the electric fence every day.

We will have animals working for man and not have man working for animals as we have been doing up to now. We need to get the animals to irrigate and fertilize the land. We need to get animals to plant. You may ask: How? Yes, if the plant seeds are spread in the field and animals are made to step over it they will cover them. We are going to plant many, thousands of caballerias with plant seeds. That requires minimal preparation of the soil and it will eliminate the use of fuel.

The animals will irrigate, plant, and fertilize the soil. They eliminate all the grass. They do not leave any type of weeds because they eat them when they go in herds.

Well, I give you all these examples so that you can have an idea that there are resources and possibilities of working things out. The leguminous plants will be a source of protein. We will use zeolite with manure. We will look for some of our mines which, although they have little phosphorous, they can help to enrich the land with a little bit of phosphorous and calcium. We have studied the soils everywhere and know where a little more or a little less is needed. Sometimes the product is there but a certain level or a certain condition is needed in the soil so that it can be used efficiently.

There will be practically no mixed feed or fertilizers for cattle. In spite of this, we plan to bring about a revolution with all this. Fertilizers need to be kept for other basic crops such as the sugarcane. We cannot stop using at least a little bit of nitrogen. We are going to use all the collection centers' ashes, which have phosphorous, potassium, and mineral salts. We are going to put them back into the fields. We are going to use filter cake [cachaza] and nitrogen to enrich the soil. We need to save urea for the rice fields, to give it with molasses to the animals that are being fattened. Do not forget that sugarcane not only gives us sacharina, but also molasses as a by-product. Proteinaceous molasses is used to feed pigs. Molasses with urea is used to feed meat-producing animals. Sugarcane is a crop that yields a lot per hectare. You can see that a caballeria can yield 25 pounds a day to 300 animals for a year. A little fertilizer for cane and rice is essential. We are seeing how we can use it better, if some can be in the form of urea from leaves, even if it is a minimal part, a small percentage. It is not like cane, which allows a greater percentage of urea from leaves. A little phosphorous and potassium fertilizer is needed in the poorest soils. Fertilizer is needed for the production of direct food such as plantains, potatoes, tubers, and vegetables. We have no other choice than to use there the little fertilizer that is available.

We have been analyzing all that extensively. We have been looking for formulas. Yesterday, we held a meeting with the Havana Province cooperatives. The miscellaneous crops cooperatives and representatives of other enterprises of Havana Province were present. The top 15 farmers were invited. They were selected from among the best. Gomez, one of the Gomez brothers, was among them. He is one of the best farmers in this province. They were there in that meeting. We were analyzing the problems related to the production of tubers and vegetables for the capital. I was telling them that we had 2.1 million inhabitants for which we need to provide food every day. Food cannot come from the provinces because the other provinces have their own needs. In addition, there is transportation. Our goal should be to feed the city by growing miscellaneous crops with the land we have available.

We need to increase productivity, tend the crops much better. We have to fight against serious obstacles. One of the situations that have taken place and you have been able to notice it is that the winter months are warmer each year. It is said that those phenomena originated with the increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere because of the consumption of coal, oil, fossil fuels, etc. That is bringing about a warming effect in the atmosphere. All peasants know very well that tomatoes need cold weather, and potato crops need cold weather. Many of the winter crops need cool weather. We use to have 30, 35, and almost 40 cold fronts. They brought cold air. Pollution was the only blight we used to get.

Now there are only 10, 11, 12 cold fronts. We do not have many cold fronts anymore. January is as warm as April or May. Alternaria leaf spot comes and hits potato, tomato, onion, and even carrot crops, many crops. It is a fungus, is a strong enemy, which forces us to make special efforts to see which measures we need to take. We search for more resistant varieties that are easier to grow. Irrigation needs to be increased to make the environment cooler. If we used to irrigate every six or seven days, now with the increase of pests we need to irrigate

every three or four days. These warm years work against production and force us to make special efforts.

We are developing biological controls. The white fly did a lot of damage last year. This year it was practically contained in the countryside through biological controls. In the same way there are negative bacteria, fungi, and viruses, there are positive bacteria, fungi, and insects. They help combat pests that attack crops.

We discussed all these problems yesterday. We also discussed spring planting. Tomatoes planted in the spring hardly pays for itself. It is almost impossible for it to pay for itself. If it suffers during the winter months what it has suffered, then we must plant other crops, like beans, okra, eggplant, peppers of the (?chive) variety, herbs, squash—which is classified as a tuber or a vegetable—and cucumbers. These months the heat increases and weeds grow extremely quickly. In spite of the enormous effort made and the thousands of Havana residents who have been mobilized, the fight against weeds is very difficult.

During the months of April we need to plant and weed and in May we have to plant and weed. Yesterday we analyzed each crop, each caballeria. We figured out how many have been planted and how many need to be planted from now to the end of the month. We talked about how we have to harvest now and how we have to plant and fight against weeds. We discussed how plantain crops are going, plantains with surface and aerial microject irrigation. That is going quickly, but it is not going to give us plantains in the second half of the year. New plantain plants that are planted in March, April, May, June, and July will not yield plantains for a year. Nevertheless, enormous efforts need to be made in weeding. I found a group of the Blas Roca Contingent's 30th Brigade that had weeded plaintains 12 times between December and May. An enormous effort is being made.

Now many people in Havana are beginning to understand the effort needed to weed, to produce those foods, to fight against weeds, to harvest with the heat and humidity of this country. Humidity does not help in this area. Of course, as you know and Lugo might have said, the revolution gave many opportunities to everyone, all kinds of opportunities. Many children of peasants, agriculture workers, cooperative members who were working these 42,000 hectares...[break in reception] because we had 38,000 hectares of miscellaneous crops. Now we have added 4,000 more hectares which used to be planted with cane. This year we have asked for 300 caballerias that used to be for sugarcane. We had already transferred 450, [corrects himself] 750 caballerias from sugarcane to miscellaneous crops in the province. Despite that, sugar production has not dropped. The sugar industry workers have managed to increase yields. We plan to continue increasing yields. We will have a plot drainage system and irrigation. We even have one caballeria, almost one test caballeria with aerial microjet irrigation to see what it yields. That was in Artemisa. It was planted recently. The sugar industry sector has transferred to us 750 caballerias. We now have 42,000 hectares.

However, when a sugarcane field is changed from one year to the next, different things need to be planted so that it is not affected by the cane's residual herbicides. We have 42,000 hectares. Over 9,000 will be planted with plantains. They will all have irrigation systems: bananas and plantains, using both kinds of microjet irrigation, thus resulting in more than 20,000 quintals of plaintains per caballeria. We have been analyzing all that. The things needed for all those programs have been included. As you know, to build up 50 caballerias of plantains with aerial microjet irrigation is like building a city. Each caballeria requires over 800 posts and no one knows the kilometers of underground pipes and above-ground hoses that are needed. It is a very modern technique. We are really working with the most modern techniques in the world, trying to get increased productivity. Research centers are working, searching for varieties, searching for fungi and bacteria for the biological control of pests, and I can say that it is possible for our country to develop into a great producer of those products for the biological control of pests. It will be one of the country's fields of development, as medicine is turning out to be. It will be medicine for plants, but not through pesticides or poisons. We need to use those poisons as little as possible because many times those products are passed on to people even when measures are taken.

That is why the work of scientists looking for biological controls of pests is so important. The sugarcane industry workers use the famous lysophagous fly (mosca lisofaga), I think it is called, against the borer. It would be impossible to spray the cane with pesticides. It would be extremely expensive to spray 30,000 caballerias of sugarcane to fight the borer. We defend ourselves from other diseases by using resistant varieties. We also need to do that with plants. Research centers are not only working for biological control. They are working on developing bacteria and fungi that get nitrogen from the air.

I already told you that leguminious plants have rhizomes, but gramineous plants can have (?sotobacteria). We are studying the number of fermenting machines we have in the country to produce torula yeast or other things and to produce millions of liters with (?sotobacteria) which can also be used to fertilize plants, vegetables, and gramineous plants. Some dozen (?sotobacteria) have been isolated, which are useful for sugarcane. Of course we have to develop each type according to the soil and the variety of cane. Researchers have already isolated dozens, and our problem now is how to multiply those bacteria through fermentation, store it in liquid form, and spray it on sugarcane.

So, our science is having an impact. Who would have said 30 or 32 years ago when the agrarian reform began that today we would have dozens of thousands of scientists, engineers, all types of technicians, dozens of

research centers that would be doing these things? They are looking for microorganisms instead of pesticides to fight pests, looking for microorganisms that produce nitrogen or turn other elements in the soil into usable substances instead of chemical fertilizers.

That is the type of thing we have to do these days, and we are doing them. We are also breaking in 100,000 oxen. As soon as we are done we are going to break in 100,000 more. Instead of eating oxen we have to turn them into working animals. We always try to bring in something else, such as poultry. We will find something to replace that meat. For now, at least 200,000 animals that are suitable for slaughter have to be used to play the role of tractors. If we find ourselves with more fuel problems we are not going to raise our hands or give up. We will never do that. We will be doing all these things to face these unexpected difficulties that have come up for reasons that are already known. While the Yankees are smacking their lips and rubbing their hands in anticipation, we work without rest and without respite and without losing a minute. I say that we cannot lose a single minute. To you, farmers, I say we cannot lose a second and much less now during these decisive months.

We already had May Day during the month of May. It was a wasted day from the productive point of view. The day before and the day after were also wasted. If people were mobilized for the rally the day before and the day after, 48 more hours were wasted. We later had a very beautiful day which was Mother's Day, but students and everyone were mobilized to their homes. It is a logical thing. That leaves the day before and after with decreased productivity. We were counting the lost hours and the caballerias that were not planted, harvested, or weeded. [applause]

Now with the Peasant's Day we said: Let us hope that people do not stop working, because if they do we would have wasted May. May cannot be wasted. The rains that fall in this southern area come now. Between the heat, weeds, and rain, the situation becomes serious. An idea has returned to my mind, an idea that I mentioned Lugo might have said before and that I did not complete. Everyone's children went off to school, to the pre-university schools, to schools for teachers, professors, physicians, engineers, technicians, and everything, officers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces Ministry and Interior Ministry. Nobody was left. That is a reality. Those are life's inconsistencies. That wonderful thing that everyone could go to school made many people give up the idea of working in the countryside.

You have no idea how many have gone to the city and other places. They have become professionals. We run the risk of having a society of intellectuals. Now we have had to mobilize people from Havana.

There are many people from the eastern provinces among them. I run into them and I joke with them. I say: Now you are going to live in one of those towns. You are crazy about the new towns we want to build, because they are going to be very pretty. There are married couples and everything who are thinking about moving to the towns, because that agricultural enterprise with 1,700 caballerias has 1,900 agricultural workers. That is barely one worker per caballeria. There were many enterprises that had less than one worker per caballeria.

People come here from Havana, and I run into those people from the eastern provinces, and I say: Before you lived 1,000 km away, especially if they were from Guantanamo, now you are going to live 35 km away. You have come quite a bit nearer the capital. But they are there, in the capital. You better be careful and not move here, because we will take away the medal we gave to the national vanguard workers. You better stay there in the countryside. [applause]

But it is beneficial. You should see the things they have been building. They have been working. I had no idea that the workers from the eastern provinces could work so hard. I thought that the people from Villa Clara Province worked more than those from the eastern provinces, but I have discovered that they are phenomenal, especially because they go through the transformation [words indistinct] They form a contingent and acquire the habit. They are redoubtable, because the people from the eastern provinces were known as warriors in the eras of independence and invasions and all those things. They always liked that a lot.

After the revolution, in addition to war they liked the invasions , they still like them, but they were another kind of invasions. They would move in the home of a relative in Havana. And now they love the new towns, because the towns are going to be wonderful, in the style of the Olympic Village, and they will not cost any more. With the same materials and the same things, only with better and prettier designs, they are going to be much more human towns. But now we have to do all that. We must build from 10,000 to 12,000 houses to bring in new people, who will not return to the city, but pull weeds. It is not like with sugarcane, where we have machinery to solve the problems for us. There are machines to take the place of 300,000 cane cutters. Now, tomatoes must be picked one by one, or when you plant cucumbers and three little leaves this big come up, and weeds are growing right beside them, and you do not know which are the weeds and which are the cucumbers.

I have seen the people from Havana, when I have visited the camps, making a great effort, people who worked in offices working 10 and 12 hours a day, pulling weeds by hand. There are no machines to do that, or for the boniato vines. You have to cut the boniato vines. In order to plant one caballeria of boniato, you need 600,000 vines and 200 workers cutting vines in one day to plant one caballeria. After planting the 600,000 vines in that one caballeria, it is natural that the planting would be done well, the field would be well tended.

The Gomez brothers' technique would be used, because they have their boniato there. I have visited it. They

produce even the seeds. They have their technique to grow the seeds. That would need a longer explanation but I do not want to run on a lot. They produce the seeds. They get 10,000 quintals. That is why they are among the very outstanding farmers. Not all are like that. Not all farmers have the same knowledge, the same experience, but there are some very outstanding ones in different crops, and we more or less keep them in mind. They are our advisers. When we want to know what you can get from a hectare, how you should do it, and what tasks to undertake,they are very knowledgeable. I would say that each of the farmers, what they have on their farms, those outstanding farmers—and there are a few dozen in this province, just as there are also some very outstanding cooperatives—are research centers. They are also scientists, just like the outstanding cooperatives, the outstanding enterprises. We must look for all that.

But if you plant up to 600,000 boniato vines to get a bit over a pound from each vine, you get 10,000 quintals. It is nothing to get 3,000. That is equivalent to three caballerias. I often tell the comrades of the miscellaneous crops enterprises to look at the Gomez brothers' boniato fields there. They plant potatoes, and they have spent 20 years rotating potatoes and boniato on the same land. They get very high potato harvests even in bad years. This year, which was bad because of all the problems I mentioned with the weather, they harvested less than what they traditionally harvest, but they got between 7,000 and 8,000 quintals, approximately 8,000 quintals per caballeria. They have good techniques, a good level of fertilization. They use a little more fertilizer than usual. That produces results, but now we have to continue to investigate what to do if we have less fertilizer. In any case, if we have to give someone the fertilizer they need, we have to give it to those who get the maximum from that fertilizer.

But, well, I was talking about the efforts that must be made with regard to the yuca. You have to find the yuca stalk and plant, plant by plant. There are no machines for planting yuca, so it must be done by hand. In past centuries they invented slavery, annihilated the Indians, and brought Africans here. They enslaved them just to make them do what we have to do. The developed countries bring in people from the Third World. In Europe they bring in Turks, people from Algeria and those African countries, to do the hardest work. In the United States they bring in Haitians and Mexicans, Latin Americans. There are hundreds of thousands, millions.

When [words indistinct] hard work, and there they work with air conditioning. I know that, in Canada, there are of thousands of Mexicans growing vegetables. But what is the temperature there now, in May? It is 15 degrees. That is like working in air conditioning. But here, how hot is it? It is 30 degrees. What is the relative humidity? It is 85 or 90 percent. That would not be bad, to plant boniato like that, to plant 600,000 plants per caballeria. Do you understand?

We have to be aware of that reality. Who is going to do it? We are. Who can do it? We can. That is why I respect that I am inspired by many comrades who have come to the capital and become intellectuals, even doctors and everything, planting boniato. They come for two weeks. There are some who have come four times a year to do it. They really work. I have never seen the voluntary workers working as they are now. You know that. I know it because I visit the camps and talk with them. I know that at 0530 they are up. We have tried to create the best possible living conditions for them, but they have to do hard work.

These are our realities. That is how we have to produce our food, but we are not going to become discouraged by it. I think we have enough energy and courage, and good enough health, because in spite of the fact ....[changes thought] The ones who did this work before were the pariahs, the unemployed, and often immigrants were brought in from Haiti and Jamaica for the hard work. But as the population grew, it was Cubans who did the work, but Cubans who were going hungry, the unemployed, for a much lower population. Now we have to ensure milk for the children for each child and malanga for each one. We must ensure food for the entire population.

This is why we have to make this effort, and ask everyone to make a great effort. Yesterday we asked it of all the agricultural workers, the cooperative members, the farmers. On 23 May we will have a meeting with the members of the credit and service cooperatives. So we are coordinating the efforts of the state enterprises, the enterprises, the cooperatives, and the independent farmers in this historic task of providing for the capital. We are already producing much more, but it is not enough. I have already mentioned the problems we have had with some crops and the climate. Although we are producing more, it is not enough.

It is thought that perhaps by September there will be about 200,000 quintals of bananas per month. We have to reach at least 500,000 quintals per month, having all the plantations in operation, or 600,000 quintals, we shall see. [words indistinct] The capital still needs a great effort, sacrifices by the people in the provinces who have to keep sending supplies, however, more than half of what is consumed in Havana came from the provinces. Thus, it is a matter of honor for the farmers and agricultural workers of Havana Province to provide not only for the 700,000 inhabitants of the province—that is more or less what there is—but also the 2.1 million inhabitants of the capital. Almost 3 million people must be provided for. That requires a serious, technical, organized, efficient, productive effort. Is that clear?

In addition, the province produces more than 600,000 tons of sugar. There are more than 100,000 hectares in Havana Province devoted to sugarcane. The province is a great sugar producer. Although we have taken area away from cane, we want production to continue to increase through new techniques. I have wanted to use this day to approach this topic of great relevance, great

practical meaning. When I came by here I passed through the research center. I stopped for three minutes; I think I arrived late here. I sneaked into the (?Liliana Dimitrova) Research Center. They are developing new crop varieties. I was there for a few minutes and I said I would come back later; I was coming to this ceremony.

Yesterday I was talking at a cooperative that produces watercress, and I asked them if any research center was helping them. They said no. That cooperative, which—along with the independent farmers—produces about 30,000 quintals, intends to reach 100,000 quintals. Watercress is good; it has iodine and iron. I went to the (?Liliana Dimitrova), and was talking with the people there, and the INIFAT [Institute for Basic Research in Tropical Agriculture]. They have to help in developing more productive varieties. They have a good variety. Each of the crops must be supported by technology and science.

It seems that at a time like this, at a stage like this, holding a ceremony like this one has great meaning, great revolutionary content. It has been very just to recall the vanguard workers, because the vanguard workers are like the standard-bearers in battle. They are the ones who set an example for others. Therefore, I congratulate all those who received awards or decorations; all the farmers of the agricultural production cooperatives, the miscellaneous crops cooperatives and those with all crops; all the farmers of the credit and service cooperatives; and all the agricultural workers and cadres who devote their efforts to this noble task of producing food for the people.

That is why we also say, with more conviction than ever: Socialism or death, fatherland or death, we will overcome! [applause]

## GRANMA Reacts to Bush, Aronson Speeches

*FL2405173991 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1357 GMT 24 May 91*

[Editorial published in the third edition of GRANMA on 24 May in Havana entitled "Cynicism, Demagogy, and Mediocrity in U.S. Policy Towards Cuba—read by announcer]

[Text] The analysts who, motivated by the media fanfare, try to find new keys for examining U.S. policy concerning Cuba in the most recent speeches by U.S. President George Bush and Under Secretary of State Aronson are wasting their time. On the occasion of the commemoration in the United States of what for Cuba is the ill-fated date of 20 May, George Bush and Bernard Aronson have come on stage to reiterate the same schema that successive U.S. Administrations have tried to impose on Cuba since 1959 and for three decades.

This time their roles, arranged beforehand, were to take advantage of the climate of confusion in a world which seems not to realize where some are trying to lead it. The show hardly went beyond the stale police technique of alternating a harsh interrogator who threatens and shouts with another in sheep's clothing who tries to confuse the one being interrogated with a honeyed message, in an attempt to hide that one is taking away what the other has not given.

If the Americans, those in government, really wanted to send a message to the Cuban people, they should start by showing less crudeness in choosing the date and the setting. For any self- respecting Cuban who knows something about Cuban history and has any patriotic spirit, 20 May represents frustration. On that day, a castrated nation came into the world, exhausted by the dead weight that prevented it from rising up and walking on its own two feet. The date of 20 May deserves to be recalled only to explain the origins of neocolonialism and illustrate the path that led to Cuba's becoming the U.S. backyard. The date of 20 May recalls the Platt Amendment, the mutilation of sovereignty, the imposition of the Guantanamo Naval Base, and evokes the empire's proconsuls, who were accredited as ambassadors starting at that time.

Miami, the traditional haunt of the counterrevolution, headquarters of the centers of sabotage and subversion against Cuba, refuge of hired killers, traitors, and criminals, or even puppets, could never be chosen as the setting for a constructive statement. The key lies in the fact that neither Bush nor his subordinate in the administration wanted to present anything realistic or even to suggest that they are trying to begin reevaluating the validity of their anti-Cuban policy. In fact, what they did was to keep out of trouble and reiterate their threatening discourse in order to, with a monotony that is frankly boring, once more demand our country's unconditional surrender.

Although Bush's tape-recorded message was distant and impersonal, it was very revealing of the climate of arrogance and contempt for the choices made by other nations. We must recognize one constant, an article of faith: The United States has no allies, only interests, and does not need friends but acolytes. The perverted vision of the new world order was unmistakeably clear when the Yankee President expressly listed the conditions Cuba would have to meet to receive the favor of an improvement in relations with the United States.

According to Bush, we Cubans would have to accept, for example, what he calls free and fair elections, of course in accordance with the U.S. model and also under international supervision. It would even be necessary to involve the carnival of political parties that in the past legitimized neocolonial domination. Of course, international entities would have to investigate supposed human rights violations in Cuba.

Bush has got the wrong country, or he has become delirious with triumphalism. A platform of this kind would be unacceptable and would offend even [Panamanian President Guillermo] Endara. Those who wrote the speech did not realize that it contains an insoluble contradiction. How can one assume that a climate of

normality is desirable when one of the parties dictates such conditions in such a crude way? Without noticing the spectacular irony of his gesture, the former head of the CIA added to his demands what he called the release of political prisoners: that is, persons who have been imprisoned for crimes against the revolution.

This selective demand strongly draws our attention because it is the Bush administration which, despite the treaty in force, has refused to grant visas for about 30,000 Cuban citizens who have taken the legal steps and have authorization to emigrate to the United States. These are in addition to those who have clean records and wish to join their families. Some of those authorized were drawn into counterrevolutionary escapades or tried to leave the country illegally, and they have served prison sentences.

The United States has shut the door in their faces. It thus scorns even those who have served it, while it welcomes and promotes the treatment as heroes of those who by any means, even by endangering the lives of innocent people, succeed in breaking the country's immigration laws. The program for freedom and democracy for Cuba upheld by Bush and his deep love for Cubans [words indistinct] of the current U.S. President is compensated for by the power he is given by the continuous exercise of a demagogy that, to be fair, is usually effective when it is met by historical ignorance and the confusion suffered by some circles in the midst of the setbacks and adversities of the days we are living in.

It is not difficult to imagine the derision with which U.S. ideologues and leaders contemplate the orgy of multiparty systems which fragment and tear apart societies and nations, in which tens and even hundreds of parties which have risen up overnight have created the ideal context for the hegemony of regressive forces that promote the reestablishment of capitalism. Go tell this story to other gullible people, Mr. Bush! We have nothing to learn from the U.S. system of government, whose political power structure manages to alternate groups and factions grouped with different nuances into two parties which are essentially identical with respect to the conservation and continued consolidation of the capitalist social regime.

What strange divine mandate does the U.S. President have by virtue of which he feels he can put conditions on relations with Cuba? What makes him think he can dictate requirements to Cubans? Has George Bush asked himself if Cuba cares about this kind of relation with the United States? Has he not noticed that Cuba also has an opinion? Is he perhaps ignorant of the universally recognized principle that grants sovereign equality to all nations and gives Cuba the reciprocal right to set conditions also?

Cuba could demand that the United States put an end to farce elections and the spurious presidencies in which a lucky person can be elected by only 30 percent of the voters, and modernize its intricate and extremely indirect electoral system in which the citizens of California and Massachusetts have a much greater right to elect and be elected than those of the so-called Associated Free State of Puerto Rico. It could also be demanded that the United States do away with the social inequality and discrimination that cause an infant mortality rate twice as high among the black population as among whites, or result in 50 percent of the houses of North American Indians lacking indoor plumbing. It could even be demanded that the United States question and reform its penal system so that there will not be a rate of imprisonment in the United States higher than that in South Africa.

The list of hypothetical conditions could be infinite, as infinite as it would be unreal. Cuba could, for example, demand as a condition for normalizing relations with the United States that not a single U.S. citizen be left unsheltered or unemployed. There would be no room for civilized coexistence in the modern world if governments demanded that other governments be organized in their own image. Who can believe in the U.S. President's honesty and concern for the well-being of Cubans when his administration is trying to strangle our economy and is intensifying the embargo precisely when the difficulties we face are becoming greater?

This administration is the one that boasts in a repugnant way about its good intentions toward Cubans and tries to present the bilateral disagreement as a result of the incompatibility between the system in Cuba and those in the rest of the hemisphere. Paradoxically, if the United States agrees with the idea of defending pluralism in the hemisphere, Cuba would be or should be preserved because it is Cuba that gives the continent a decidedly pluralistic nuance. What would the United States say if Cuba tried to convert to socialism some of the democracies in Latin America which look first to the barracks, Yankee embassies, or the IMF for guidance before making any decision?

How can the United States keep up its anti-Cuban obsession while it maintains without distinction relations with presidential or parliamentary regimes, constitutional monarchies, emirates or sultanates, even satrapies, military dictatorships, family dynasties, or even tribal governments? We have yet to see the first case in which the United States conditions the continuance of normal diplomatic ties on the dismantling of apartheid, the return of the territories occupied by Israel, or the abolition of the Saudi monarchy, to cite only a few examples.

It is certainly strange that when it comes down to it, the only model that Mr. Bush finds incompatible with his liberal vocation is the Cuban one. What is really happening is that this is not the problem. The real reason is more unpleasant to set forth. The United States has very rigid rules for the American Hemisphere. If someone steps outside those parameters, he will be inexorably sabotaged, embargoed, and even overthrown. To give

only one example, the elegant lesson of tolerance shown by the acceptance of social democratic governments in Western Europe has nothing to do with the fierce intransigence and the conspiracy unleashed by the United States against the no-less-socialist Salvador Allende.

Thus, it is not a matter of political coloring or more or less perfect structures, but rather for the United States, Latin America is private property where it would prefer mayor's offices rather than independent nations. Ingenuous allies are not excluded from this peculiar distinction: they may be surprised by the most unexpected U.S. trick. It has just been revealed that the United States sold Exocet missiles to the Argentine military while Reagan pretended to have idyllic relations with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher. Thus, in addition to crude reductionism, there is also a brazenness about presenting the historical differences between Cuba and the United States as deriving from the forms of political organization or the notions about law that the two countries have chosen and that supposedly are mutually exclusive.

What underlies and gives rise to 32 years of attack is the fact that through the revolution, Cuba escaped U.S. control. This is our heresy: to encourage, uphold, and defend our own political program, created by ourselves outside and in opposition to U.S. guidance. This is the program we are proud of, both because of what it has already contributed in promoting the conscious participation of the masses and the individual, and democratic consultation in all matters that concern them, as well as their powers concerning social property, leadership of socioeconomic development, and full exercise of independence and sovereignty, for an unprecendented democratization of decision-making and all social life.

After George Bush's crude attempt at distortion, Bernard Aronson entered the scene. He can hope for a consolation prize for his frankness. Before his bewitched audience in Miami, which would have made forgotten [late 19th century] Autonomist Party caudillos blush, and which—who can doubt this—excluded any progressive elements of the Cuban community, the under secretary of state asserted that the United States harbors no aggressive intentions towards Cuba, has no plans for Cuba, and does not claim any right to direct that nation's affairs. In his patronizing and ridiculous role, Aronson said that his government longs for Cuba to become democratic in a peaceful way, because no one wants to see violence, traumas, or sufferings for the Cuban people.

Anyone who listened to Aronson might think that the economic embargo, the Bay of Pigs invasion, the October missile crisis, and the attempts to assassinate the top Cuban leader—denounced and formally opposed as methods by the U.S. Senate—were anecdotes from another planet. Aronson was daring in his uncouth language: The threat of a U.S. invasion of Cuba is a hoax invented by the Cubans; the Americans are not a threat to Cuba. It is impossible to take any of these assertions seriously. In reality, they complement Bush's blackmailing bluster. In an inefficient way, Aronson fulfills the mission attributed to the legendary sirens in the Odyssey of drawing sailors off course by attracting them with their songs.

What is very clear is that Cuba is not a threat to the United States. It cannot be, above all out of common sense, because it lacks that intention and economic and military power, and also because its means of struggle are defensive. This reasoning cannot be applied to the United States. To justly give the benefit of the doubt, and so that it cannot be alleged that Cubans lightly reject any U.S. offer, we base ourselves on one concept: Actions speak louder than words. What must be put on the table are actions, not words.

If the United States is no threat to Cuba and does not plan for violence against the revolution, why does it have an embargo against Cuba? What does it need the Guantanamo Naval Base for? Why do they not dismantle it? What sense is there in keeping its bases in the south bristling with planes and missiles pointing at Cuba? Why the dangerous military maneuvers in the Caribbean in which they openly rehearse a massive surprise air attack on Cuba, if they do not have the intention of launching a surprise attack at a favorable time?

These are the actions that give the lie to Aronson's supposedly candid words and bring his language close to the boasting his President had taped earlier. There is no political science, however profound, or mysterious alchemy that can make what the United States says coincide with what the United States does. The a cappella duet by Bush and Aronson would not win any prize in the most tolerant amateur competition. Speaking in political terms, nothing serious or honest can come from cynicism, demagogy, or mediocrity.

### Accords on Troop Withdrawal From Angola Signed

*FL2505011891 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] The agreement between the Governments of Cuba and Angola on the completion of the withdrawal of the Cuban military mission was signed in Luanda today. Our special correspondent Dalia Reyes reports that the protocol was signed by Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida Bosque, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo; and Colonel General Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, defense minister of the brother African country.

The document refers to the agreements signed in New York in 1988 and ratifies that Cuba complied with the timetable for the withdrawal of its troops 36 days before schedule.

Later, the Angolan defense minister and Brigade General Samuel Rodiles Planas, chief of the Cuban military mission, signed the act of conciliation between the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola and

the Revolutionary Armed Forces on the return of the military equipment, weapons, and material supplies.

The combat flag of the Cuban military mission in Angola was also decorated today with the symbol of the Combative Brotherhood Medal, First Class.

### Final Group of Internationalists Leaves Angola

*FL2505181391 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos has said farewell today at the Luanda airport to the last contingent of Cuban internationalist troops, who have departed to return to Cuba. The ceremony was also attended by Cuban Vice President Juan Almeida Bosque, who headed a high-ranking delegation to that African country.

The agreement on the total, gradual withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola was signed by both governments on 22 December 1988 in New York, and a 27-month schedule was established to carry this out. The withdrawal was to have concluded on 30 June. Moments before their departure, Division General Samuel Rodriguez Planas, head of the Cuban mission in Angola, stated that they were returning to their homeland with the satisfaction of having fulfilled their internationalist duty.

### Fidel, Raul Welcome Contingent

*PA2705041991 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and Army General Raul Castro, first and second secretaries of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, welcomed today the last group of internationalist combatants who returned from Angola.

The Cubana de Aviacion flight arrived at 2250 on 25 May at the El Wajay Military Airport. The first one to descend from the plane was commander of the revolution Juan Almeida Bosque, who headed the Cuban Government delegation which participated in the official activities to bid farewell to the Cuban troops in Angola. He was followed by internationalist soldiers and officers and by Brigadier General Samuel Rodriguez Plana, chief of the military mission in Angola, and two combatants carrying the Cuban flag. The flag went with the first group of combatants to Angola and now, along with the combat flag, was returning with the last soldier.

Four other flights arrived yesterday, bringing internationalist combatants who were welcomed by party leaders and representatives from the Revolutionary Armed Forces, the Ministry of the Interior, and other organizations.

### Malmierca Greets Combatants

*FL2505181291 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] This morning another group of internationalists who completed their mission in Angola arrived. The internationalist combatants were met at the foot of the aircraft's stairs by alternate Politburo member Yolanda Ferrer, Division General Rogelio Acevedo, and Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca. Cuban-Angolan friendship was forged in the heat of battle from Cabinda to Cuito Cuanavale. The principles of Marxism-Leninism and of Marti led Cubans to defend the independence and sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola.

[Begin Malmierca recording] Almost 16 years have passed since those dramatic moments when South African troops advanced in less than 20 days more than 700 km inside Angolan territory. We went there to defend their independence and prevent South African occupation of the independent nations of Africa. [end recording]

### Fidel Awards Vets, Praises Agrarian Mobilization

*FL2705132491 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro delivered the closing speech in a ceremony to decorate the rebel army fighters of the Jose Marti Column One. The emotional encounter took place in the Alquizar municipality of Havana Province. Fidel, along with other revolutionary leaders, presented medals to the 424 guerrilla comrades who for 15 days contributed to farming activities with the same endeavor and fighting spirit that they showed during the fight in the Sierra Maestra. These timeless combatants also received, from the hands of our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, banners and flags earned by the two camps and the three best brigades. Their accomplishments in production and their exemplary behavior enrich the history of the column, which is as vital today as ever.

[Begin Fidel Castro recording] We could not have chosen a better time, precisely because of the conditions our country is currently experiencing. We could not have chosen a period more similar to our struggle in the Sierra Maestra, to our struggle in difficult times and circumstances against a very powerful enemy. An enemy much more powerful than Batista. Who was Batista? A cat next to a tiger, if we compare him to our enemy today: The empire, those who are encouraging the counterrevolution, those who want to destroy our work, those who want to wipe Cuba off the face of the map. To wipe out the revolution means to wipe out Cuba.

Therefore, this is the best moment. It is just a coincidence, however, there is something even more beautiful than this valuable coincidence. It must be a result of the fighting spirit prevailing in our country. It must have come from your intelligence and enthusiasm, or at least

it must have been received with lots of interest. It is the idea of the 15-day agrarian mobilizations. [end recording]

### Castro Meets With Havana Cooperatives, Farmers

*FL2505175791 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1625 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] The need to get the most out of every hectare and obtain a wide variety of foods throughout the year was brought up by our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in the recent meeting the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers held with Havana Province credit and service cooperative presidents and farmers. The purpose of the meeting was to ascertain the farmers' readiness to make the effort this period demands of them; they exchanged experiences and ideas for six hours.

Fidel explained that last year Havana Province produced 6 million quintals of tubers and vegetables, and no fewer than 15 million quintals are needed to provide for Havana City and Havana Provinces. The top leader said that there is enough land for this, and reiterated the importance of not planting anything out of season, but of planting when the highest yields and best resistance to disease will be obtained. Maria Hernandez, president of the Frank Pais Credit and Service Cooperative in Alquizar, expressed in the farmers' name their determination to plant and harvest whatever is needed.

### Farmers Make Pledge

*FL2405184291 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1625 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Yesterday, during a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers, the independent farmers of Havana told Commander in Chief Fidel Castro of their willingness to plant and harvest whatever is necessary to satisfy the demand of the provinces of Havana.

During a meeting with presidents of credit and service cooperatives, Fidel explained the desired objective—to maximize use of every acre, with even fewer resources than before. He described efforts currently being made in the country to guarantee greater availability and diversity of vegetables year-round.

### Alarcon Opposes UN Human Rights Recommendation

*FL2505120391 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] Cuba has rejected the approval in the UN Economic and Social Council [Ecosoc] of a U.S. recommendation to appoint a representative of the secretary general to report on human rights in our country. Speaking before the vote, Cuban Ambassador Ricardo Alarcon warned the Ecosoc members about the invitation to err contained in the resolution imposed by the United States in March on the members of the UN Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva.

Alarcon said: We have before us profound reasons to confirm that the proposal is not motivated by concern for human rights but rather is part of a systematic political campaign waged for more than 30 years. He added that Cuba is opposed to asking the UN secretary general to appoint a representative to examine human rights in a country about which neither the Commission nor any other body has made any statement.

## Inter-Caribbean Affairs

### CANA Presents Reform Package to Caricom

*FL2205011791 Bridgetown CANA in English 2208 GMT 21 May 91*

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 21, CANA—The Caribbean News Agency [CANA] on Tuesday presented a case for a 'special press/broadcast tariff,' Caribbean freedom of information legislation, and freedom of movement arrangements. The recommendations were made at the opening here of public meetings of a commission reviewing the performance of the Caribbean Community [Caricom, Caribbean Common Market], and drawing up proposals for advancing its goals. Trevor Simpson, director of CANA's wire service, presented the company's paper to the West Indian Commission. Following are extracts from the paper: On telecommunications costs: '...CANA, as an indigenous non-profit Caricom media organisation, working to help fashion a better- integrated, and more enlightened Caribbean, deserves a special press/broadcast tariff that substantially cuts present costs—the kind of concessions accorded to similar media houses in some other Third World countries. 'It may be that the agency and Caricom also need to look again at the technology being used to move the various signals from one point to another in the region. One answer may well be satellite technology.'

On Freedom of Information: 'Despite their oft-stated commitment to 'open government' and the democratic ideals, too many Caribbean politicians still hold fast to their tradition of withholding certain basic public information from the news media. In one Caricom country, if the Caribbean Association of Media Workers (Camwork) is to be believed, the prime minister has not held a news conferene for six years, and refuses to give interviews to what he perceives to be the 'opposition' media. In at least one other Eastern Caribbean state, government information is treated as though it were the purview only of a certain few sympathetic journalists. CANA's ability to effectively do its job is affected by both situations. If the Caribbean Community is to advance the cause of genuine democracy in the 90's and beyond, is it not time for regional legislation which would guarantee the media and the public at large access to government records and documents, subject of course to certain reasonable limitations? 'This right of access is embodied in Canada's Federal Access to Information Act of 1983 and similar legislation passed subsequently by the Canadian provinces. While not as far-reaching in

its provisions as the United States Freedom of Information Act, the Canadian legislation has opened up access to government information previously unavailable to bona fide citizens and permanent residents. Even the Canadian model, therefore, would be more acceptable than maintaining the status quo. Caricom could use the initiative to promote higher levels of government integrity by opening up the operations of government to greater public scrutiny. Democracy and government accountability would both be better served. An acceptable timeframe would need to be established for replying to public/press queries. Provision would also have to be made for an independent administrator with the requisite powers to arbitrate in the event of refusals of access, with the high courts being the final arbiter.' On Freedom of Movement: 'CANA, because of its wide regional coverage umbrella, suffers perhaps more than other regional media institutions from the perennial problem of finding competent, qualified journalists, both for headquarters and for the agency's outposts. For this reason, and because it is an indigenously Caribbean institution, it is important for the agency to be able to recruit staffers from any Caricom member state from time to time. Against this background, CANA welcomes the support given by Caricom ministers of information, at their 1991 meeting in Jamaica, to the proposal that the recruitment and movement of duly accredited media professionals from both CANA and the CBU be facilitated by the exemption of both agencies from work permit requirements. 'CANA, however, supports the contention that, in the interest of deepening the integration process and enhancing professionalism in a multitude of areas, Caricom countries must move towards a formal freedom-of-movement arrangement. Eminent regionalist William Demas, a former Caricom secretary general and ex-president of the Caribbean Development Bank, addressed the issue in his paper 'Towards West Indian Survival.' He suggested that in the 'short-to medium-term, we could agree to an arrangement which would involve freedom of movement of persons with certain skills and professions which are in scarce supply, thus easing the obstacles to development in the recipient country.' This, he says, should be followed by a feasibility study of the general application of the concept. CANA supports Demas, and further would wish media workers to be counted in the class of professionals considered 'in scarce supply.'

## Scarcity of Funds Demands Better Management

*FL2305000891 Bridgetown CANA in English 1952 GMT 22 May 91*

[Text] Barbados, May 22, CANA—The scarcity of external funds for development requires that Caribbean Community (Caricom) [Caribbean Common Market] states improve their generation, mobilisation, and use of savings, Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) President Sir Neville Nicholls said Tuesday.

'The gist (is) a plea for the creation of an environment that is attractive to development of a domestic capital market that will counter the negative consequences of external pressures on the mobilisation of development capital,' he told the West Indian Commission. Sir Neville said the Commission should consider if features of the Common Market Annex to the Treaty of Chaguaramas, establishing Caricom, need modification to respond to the increased scarcity of developmental funding, and the trend of global opening and competitiveness.

The Commission, mandated by Caricom leaders to canvass opinion on the future of the Community, began three days of hearings Tuesday in Barbados. The Commission has already held consultations in nine other Caricom states and Britain.

According to the CDB president, Articles in the Annex to the Caricom Treaty, such as those related to coordination of economic policies and development planning, are more acute as many Caricom countries face an 'increasing paucity of developmental capital. The corollary of this is that we must become more efficient with the use of scarcer capital; improve the mechanisms for mobilising it; and vastly increase our efforts to stimulate the conditions for generating and retaining, not to mention repatriating, domestic savings,' he said.

He cited his statement to the Regional Economic Conference in Port-of-Spain earlier this year, that while many groups are 'good savers,' influential groups convert the savings to 'socially sub-optimal consumption,' or they are absorbed to sustain state deficits.

'...Given the ever-increasing scarcity of developmental capital, our region can no longer afford these inefficiencies, regardless of what may be...the political imperatives to do so.' According to Sir Neville, both government and opposition political leaders need to cooperate on matters such as the containment of fiscal deficits, if the region is to remain an attractive location for accumulating domestic savings.

He said Article 37, prescribing 'regulated movement of capital,' could be modified to 'reflect a more welcoming approach to capital mobility. This will certainly give impetus to the drive to establish a regional capital market, and will be consistent with the recent actions of some governments to make it easier for non-nationals to acquire land and other assets in their countries.'

Sir Neville said exchange rate stability is necessary for mobilisation and retention of domestic savings, and warned that Caricom states are not strong enough to persistently run large deficits and maintain exchange rate stability.

'Article 28 of the Annex (allowing import restrictions arising from balance of payments difficulties) could be modified to reflect the desirability of greater monetary and fiscal policy harmonisation and a shorter period of adjustment.'

## West Indian Commission Closes 3-Day Hearings

*FL2405001091 Bridgetown CANA in English 2229 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 23, CANA—The West Indian Commission ended three days of hearings here Thursday on the future of the Caribbean integration movement, expressing satisfaction at the level of response and the progress made.

'We feel excited by our work, stimulated and encouraged by the support that we have had in the Community,' chairman Sir Shridath Ramphal told a press conference.

The Commission moves on May 27 to Dominica, the eleventh Caribbean Community (Caricom) [Caribbean Common Market] country where hearings will be held, and will later wrap up its regional sweep in the Bahamas and Belize. Hearings will also he held in North America with Caribbean nationals.

'We have had very good response right through the region,' Sir Shridath said. The Commission plans a 'progress report' in July to the Caricom Heads of Government Conference in St. Kitts and Nevis, before the final report mid-1992.

Presentations on the final day of the Barbados consultation were made by representatives of the business community, professionals and academics, arts and culture practitioners, non-governmental organisations (NGO's), women's groups, and youth and sports organisatons. The Commission chairman told journalists that whether the submissions made find their way into policy and programmes rests partly with governments and partly with the people.

Sir Shridath, who opened the consultations Tuesday, reiterating the essential role of communications in the existence of a community, said the media will have an important role in not being 'passive spectators' or 'cynical critics' in the way the Commission's report is treated.

In a submission to the Commission at Thursday's women's session, University of the West Indies' Peggy Antrobus said women's perspectives must be built into all matters of regional interest. She echoed earlier non-governmental organisations' criticism of the prevalent development strategies being attempted in the region, focusing particularly on the 'export-oriented, free market' model. According to Antrobus, and other women's submissions, the model is heavily based on the exploitation of cheap, female labour.

'We would like a model that starts by looking at our own needs,' Antrobus told the Commission, suggesting instead that a self-reliant model is more relevant to regional integration.

Elaine Hewitt told the Commission that models based on such operations as export-processing zones have been tried for decades without moving the region forward. Current talk of a 'Far East' model along much the same lines is also ulikely to benefit the region, she asserted.

'These solutions are making our crisis worse,' Hewitt said.

Jeanette Belle told the Commission that work by the Women and Development Unit (WAND) of the University of the West Indies suggests that more scope and support needs to be given to governmental and non-governmental organisations to 'empower' women with knowledge and skills to improve their conditions.

On Wednesday, government and opposition party representatives raised a variety of issues with the Commission, opposition leader Henry Forde stressing his Barbados Labour Party's belief that 'the way forward for the Caribbean lies in the concept of a single Caribbean Community. Forde said there must be a commitment to democracy, and the independence of the judiciary in a single Caribbean Community.

'We believe that this is the framework that is essential to our efforts at dealing with the emerging world economic system. Most of all, we believe that the time for bold action is now, if we are not to be left at the crossroads of history, as miniscule states lacking a truly West Indian identity, and begging our way in the world,' Forde told the Commission. He said the region must be prepared to commit itself to a programme with specific targets and a single timetable for achieving those targets.

Prime Minster Erskine Sandiford, in a public statement before a closed Cabinet session with the Commission, said his government was fully supportive of a single Caribbean union or association of states.

'The feelings of my government are our firm and positive commitment to (the) integration movement....,' Sandiford told the Commission.

## West Indian Commission Condemns Imported TV

*FL2305224991 Bridgetown CANA in English 2043 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 23, CANA—Chairman of the independent West Indian Commission, Sir Shridath Ramphal, has rapped violent movies shown on Barbados' state-owned CBC TV. Sir Shridath, who was on Thursday hearing recommendations from the Barbados arts and culture fraternity, expressed dismay at the level of violence he had seen in programmes since the Commission arrived here this week for its continuing round of consultations on shaping the future of the Caribbean.

He also expressed surprise on learning from university lecturer and member of the government's cinematic censorship board, Trevor Marshall, that films barred from cinemas by the censors could be shown on television here.

Speaker after speaker at the session at the Dover Convention Centre on the island's south coast, criticised the violence that foreign programmes brought into Caribbean homes and called for corrective measures such as cooperation in regional productions. Director of the government's National Cultural Foundation, Dr. Elliot Parris, called for a 'regional security system to combat the cultural penetration and psychological violence on our people.'

Painter Stanley Greaves called for fellowships, tax incentives for contributions to the arts, museums, and galleries for the visual arts to protect the works in the region and for the teaching of art history in traditional history syllabuses.

Another common plea was for free movement of performing and other artists as well as 'cultural goods' throughout the Caribbean community. The inadequate government finances for the arts, museums, and galleries was noted by speakers such as Alessandra Cumins of the Barbados Museum, who also highlighted the need for modern copyright legislation to protect the works of artists.

Former lecturer at the Cultural Training Centre in Jamaica, Thom Cross, made several recommendations, including the introduction of Caribbean cultural studies from the primary level, a floating boat museum, encouragement of 'cultural industries' such as video and record production, and the use of popular culture to support integration, as well as tackle problems such as drug abuse.

Marshall suggested the idea of a regional Hall of Fame-type honours system for outstanding Caribbean artists.

West Indian commissioner, and pro vice-chancellor of the University of the West Indies [UWI], Rex Nettleford, told the session that the UWI and the Cultural Training Centre, which incorporates schools of art, drama, dance, and music, were working towards a degree programme in the creative arts.

Sir Shridath told the session on the Commission's final of three days of sittings here that cultural development cannot be divided from the political and economic development of the region.

## OECS Trade With Guadeloupe, Martinique Viewed

*FL2405163691 Bridgetown CANA in English 1556 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 24, CANA—Dominica's trade minister, Charles Maynard, wants the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to do more to exploit trade and investment opportunities with the French islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique.

"There have been already a number of programmes, plans, and conferences held and discussions entered into over a long period of time," Maynard said. "But now we're saying this is the point of action in terms of the several initiatives that have already been put in place."

He referred to the possibility of joint ventures "in agro-industry or in industry." Maynard is expected to raise the issue today when he addresses businessmen attending a conference in Guadeloupe organised by the Guadeloupe Chamber of Industry and Commerce. Businessmen from the OECS—a seven-member group including Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, and Antigua—will be among those attending.

He told CANA [CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY] a special arrangement had been proposed, under previous Lome trade and aid arrangements, for the French Overseas Departments and the OECS countries to do joint programmes and get support for it.

"It seems that there is need for some action-oriented committee or body to set.... a time-table, identifying areas for cooperation, and then determining how these are put in place," he said.

Maynard reported that while in Guadeloupe he would address problems faced by Dominican hucksters. Visa restrictions in Guadeloupe are among the problems.

## Human Rights Activist Recommends Regional Regime

*FL2405180991 Bridgetown CANA in English 1744 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 24, CANA—Caribbean Rights, a regional human rights watchdog, has recommended the setting up of a Caribbean Community [Caricom] Human Rights Commission [CHRC]. Caribbean Rights coordinator Wendy Singh, in a submission to the West Indian Commission here this week, said the CHRC "should be seen as essential as a regime governing trade and economic issues."

She added: "A Caricom human rights institution or regime is as necessary, in the view of Caribbean rights, as a Caribbean Court of Appeal, the creation of which we look forward to anxiously." The court of appeal would replace the privy council as the final appellate court for independent member states of Caricom.

Ms. Singh voiced "deep disappointment that no action is being taken by Caricom governments for the creation of a human rights regime, suitable to the needs of this region."

"Caribbean Rights feels that continuing access to such regional arrangements as the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights and the Inter-American Convention on Human Rights, should not be regarded as a substitute for a Caricom human rights mechanism," she told the commission chaired by former Commonwealth Secretary General Sir Shridath Ramphal.

Caribbean Rights also drew the West Indian Commission's attention to what it said was a growing incidence of police abuse in the region, including the reported denial of the right of persons in custody to talk with a lawyer.

Caribbean Rights also suggested the establishment of an independent, permanent, regional institution to oversee the conduct of national elections in all Caricom member states. It also called for the removal of the death penalty in the absence of what it said was empirical data to justify the continuing execution of persons under sentence of death.

"It is a matter of grave concern that there are today more than 300 West Indians languishing on death row in prisons of member states of the Caribbean community," Ms. Singh said.

"Caribbean Rights has been informed by some of its affiliates that in a number of cases prisoners on murder charges were too poor to have access to legal aid. This is an injustice which must be speedily corrected."

The West Indian Commission has been reviewing the performance of the Caribbean community and preparing recommendations for community governments on how it man be improved. The independent body has just ended sessions here, listening to the views of the news media, women's representatives, politicians, businessmen, and others.

### Report on Bahamian Concern About Haitians

*FL2505184791 Bridgetown CANA in English 1624 GMT 25 May 91*

[Report by Athena Damianos]

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, May 25, CANA—With a creeping recession because of a downturn in the important tourism sector, Bahamians are concerned about a growing illegal Haitian population. "This nation is sitting on the tip of a problem of historic proportions whose implications, I suspect, we are unable to now even imagine," William Allen, a former governor of the Central Bank of the Bahamas, wrote in a letter to the local newspapers.

"The problem of illegal Haitian immigration is so vast and potent in relation to the size of this country and vulnerability of its economic and social circumstances that it will in a relatively short time now result in a fundamental economic and social transformation that even the very naive would understand to be undesirable."

That the Haitians take menial jobs shunned by Bahamians is not the main worry. It is the pressure on health and education facilities and the growth of insanitary slum areas that cause Bahamians major concern. Official statistics on the illegal Haitian population do not exist. At one point, a sample survey by the Immigration Department estimated them at 50,000. The Bahamas has a population of about 250,000.

Haitian communities have sprung up off main highways in Nassau, the capital, and in the belly of middle-class residential areas. Where Bahamians have moved out of slum areas, the economic refugees have moved in. A Haitian settlement has grown in the middle of Marsh Harbour Town on the island of Abaco. Haitians make up half of the Marsh Harbour population. They comprise three-quarters of the students at one of the schools. Haitian villages exist throughout many of the Bahamas "family islands".

Calls by the Church for a national bipartisan approach to the problem have gone unanswered. The Anglican, Methodist and Catholic Churches feel that this is the only way to deal with the dilemma. This July 10 will mark the Bahamas' 18th year of independence. Under the country's constitution, hundreds of people born in the Bahamas to Haitian parents will have the right to apply to be registered as Bahamian citizens.

Women's rights activist lawyer Allyson Gibson said that the high birth rate among Haitians is causing anxiety. In one community in Nassau, Haitians receive more services at the medical clinic than Bahamians, she said. Bahamians complain too that Haitians build wherever they please without the necessary official approvals. Sidney Kemp, a resident of Seabreeze, a middle-class neighbourhood, complained that a nearby slum has lowered property values in the area.

Haitians are living on the water well fields in Nassau, where they freely dispose of their body waste, Gibson said, posing a serious health risk. "Like many Bahamians, I am wondering when the hinterland of this country became the homeland for so many illegal immigrants," Allen wrote. Between 1985 and 1990, the Bahamas Government spent almost US900,000 dollars on the apprehension and repatriation of Haitians, Gibson said. She claimed that immigration and police officers are afraid of Haitians, as they have repeatedly attacked them.

But human rights activists have frequently complained that Haitians have received inhumane treatment at the hands of the authorities and the public. They are often robbed of their meagre earnings on their way home from work by Bahamians. Haitian students in the Bahamas are literally fighting for survival, according to District Education Officer Clarence Carroll in Grand Bahama, the second most developed island. These students are involved in most of the violent incidents in Grand Bahama schools, but 90 per cent of the time they get involved because they are singled out and picked on by Bahamian students, he said.

He and other education officers have found that children of Haitian parents are generally more interested in learning than Bahamians. A senior public school teacher, who asked not to be named, said that Haitian students who speak English are generally more motivated to learn than Bahamians. "One of the things which frightens me most is that we will lose much of our Bahamian identity. Haitians will not become Bahamianised. I think it will be the other way around," he said.

Gibson said the presence of Haitians on the Police and Defence Forces is causing concern. "Bahamians are

concerned that notwithstanding the fact that this country gives more work permits per capita to Haitians than any other nation in the world, and notwithstanding the fact that illegal Haitians do not pay any taxes for (health and education) services, we are attacked as not doing enough or not being charitable enough to our Haitian brothers," Gibson said. She said there must be a Christian solution to the Haitian problem.

Gibson's father, Deputy Prime Minister Sir Clement Maynard, said the Bahamas Government will be pressing for a treaty with Haiti to deal with the illegal immigrant population. Maynard sees the new president, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, as "perhaps the best hope we've seen on the horizon for Haiti in a long time." Peace and prosperity in Haiti could mean an eventual halt in the flow of economic refugees to the Bahamas, said Sir Clement.

Under a former treaty, Haitians living in the Bahamas for long periods were given immigrant status while others were to be repatriated. Others would be recruited to work for certain periods. Sir Clement said the treaty was not given a chance to work. He hoped that a similar treaty could be negotiated between both governments. While the problem persists, some Abaco people have banded together under the "United Abaco Citizens Committee", to deal with health and security concerns.

Government Member of Parliament George Smith has called for a national symposium on the Haitian problem. He said the government, opposition, and Haitian Government ought to participate. Anglican Bishop Michael Eldon said that long-time Haitian residents ought to be integrated into the community so that they might contribute to it. "The morality of getting rid of people who have been here for 20 years or more can be a very difficult decision," he said.

### Caribbean Leaders Condemn Gandhi Killing

*FL2205001191 Bridgetown CANA in English 2220 GMT 21 May 91*

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 21, CANA—Caribbean leaders on Tuesday condemned the killing of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford, who met Gandhi at the Commonwealth Summit in Vancouver, Canada, four years ago, said violence was no way to settle political disputes. Gandhi was killed in a bomb explosion on Tuesday while campaigning in India's bloodiest national elections.

Sandiford said Gandhi 'had a clear commitment to the Commonwealth and its principles, and to world peace, and...to international economic justice.' He said the Caribbean 'has lost a friend.'

In Grenada, Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs Francis Alexis said: 'The world has lost a leader of stature and integrity—in particular, a Third World leader—who was motivated by a very strong sense of justice, who put the interest of his country first, way above his own personal political interests.'

Deputy secretary general of the Caribbean Community, Frank Abdulla, said 'Mr. Gandhi, as a leader of India, meant a lot to us here in the Caribbean, and we deplore the circumstances in which he has met his death.'

A commission, chaired by former Commonwealth Secretary General Shridath Ramphal, on Tuesday described the killing as 'a blow of horrendous proportions' to democracy. The West Indian Commission, reviewing the performance of the Caribbean Community, expressed a 'sense of outrage and sadness' over the death of Gandhi in a bomb explosion.

'This is a blow of horrendous proportions in the world's largest democracy, and to the processes of democracy worldwide,' the Commission said. 'It comes at a time when extremism of any kind, and religious fundamentalism in particular, are posing major threats to freedom in many countries and threatening the break-up of some.

'Today's tragedy in India can only serve to exacerbate these trends and tensions, both in India and beyond.'

## Antigua and Barbuda

### Agreement Signed With European Community

*FL2305204591 Bridgetown CANA in English 1811 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, May 23, CANA—Antigua and Barbuda and the European Community have signed an agreement covering a 4.5 million European Currency Unit (ECU) allocation to Antigua for the first five years of the Fourth Lome Convention. The allocation, worth some EC 14.5 million dollars (one EC dollar=37 cents U.S.), is comprised of 3.5 million ECU's in grants and one million ECU's of loans, to be managed by the European Investment Bank (EIB).

Prime Minister Vere Bird, Sr., and EC Commission delegate, Philippe Darmuzey, on Tuesday signed the National Indicative Programme Agreement, covering the first five years of the ten-year Convention.

About 85 percent of the funds for grants allocated under the Agreement will be used for human resource development, possibly including an expansion project for Antigua's Hotel Training Centre, which the government has already proposed to the EC. There are also plans for managerial training, regionally and extra-regionally, the recruitment of technical assistance, and support measures for the livestock sector.

The government has indicated its intention to submit proposals for loans to finance small and medium-sized enterprises and economic infrastructure. Antigua has benefitted from nearly 14 million ECU's in financial and technical assistance from the Community since the First Lome Convention, some 16 years ago, on trade and aid

between developing countries of Africa, Caribbean, and the Pacific (ACP), and the European Community.

### UNDP Elects New Leader, General Secretary

*FL2705203691 Bridgetown CANA in English 1830 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] St John's, Antigua, May 27, CANA—Antigua and Barbuda's parliamentary opposition leader Baldwin Spencer has replaced medical doctor Ivor Heath as leader of the United National Democratic Party (UNDP). Spencer successfully challenged Heath for the leadership in elections at the UNDP annual convention over the weekend. Heath was UNDP leader from the party's inception in 1986. Spencer was the lone successful UNDP candidate in the 1989 general elections. He had served as Heath's deputy.

The only other major change on the UNDP executive involved the election of Burton Barnes as the new general secretary after the incumbent Len Johnson declined re-election. He opted instead to serve as treasurer. More than 400 delegates, observers and invited guests attended the two-day conference.

## Bermuda

### Majority of Hoteliers Accept Wage Settlement

*FL2305170891 Bridgetown CANA in English 1644 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, May 23, CANA—Most of Bermuda's hoteliers have agreed to accept the provisions of an arbitrated wage settlement for hotel workers, easing fears over the island's flagging bread and butter industry. Hotel Employers of Bermuda (HEB) executive officer John Harvey said a majority of his organisation's 24 members had accepted the three-year agreement while the remainder had reserved a decision until they could contact their owners.

The contract provides for a 5 percent increase in the first year effective May 24. However, because the increase is not retroactive due to a compromise between union wage demands and the HEB's demand for a wage freeze, the agreement covers only nine months. In the second year, there will be an increase of 5 per cent and 6 per cent in the final year.

The ROYAL GAZETTE newspaper said it understood five of the member properties were still attempting to contact owners on the agreement, which was completed on Friday by government mediator William Hobgood, an American brought in to hammer out an agreement.

Said Harvey: "Many hotels are concerned about their continued poor occupancies and loss of revenues and profits. However, they are willing to abide by the decision and to concentrate on hopefully getting more guests in their hotels during these recessionary times."

Bermuda Industrial Union President Ottiwell Simmons said he could not comment on the HEB's decision until after unionised workers met to consider the award.

Home Affairs Minister Sir John Sharpe welcomed the announcement by the HEB, adding that he hoped the remaining properties would follow suit and accept it. "Now the three social partners in the industry—namely the government, union, and employers—can set about working together to rebuild the tourist industry," said Sir John.

### More on Settlement

*FL2405135991 Bridgetown CANA in English 1238 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, May 24, CANA—Home Affairs Minister Sir John Sharpe has issued what amounted to an ultimatum to the Bermuda Industrial Union [BIU] following its rejection of an arbitrated wage settlement. Sir John said if the BIU did not reconsider its decision and abide by U.S. arbitrator William Hobgood's award of a 16 per cent wage increase over the next three years government would "find a solution one way or another."

Sir John said the union had broken its word to be bound by the agreement and had damaged its credibility in the eyes of the public. The minister said Premier Sir John Swan would be making an announcement concerning proposals government would put in place if the BIU failed to answer "the call to reason."

Bermuda Industrial Union President Ottiwell Simmons told a press conference Hobgood had broken an assurance to be fair to the workers. He denied the union had broken its word when it rejected the agreement to enter binding arbitration. He said the union had been assured the workers would not be any worse off as a result of the settlement and also claimed that the arbitration was not carried out properly.

Most of Bermuda's hoteliers have agreed to accept the provisions of the wage settlement. Hotel Employers of Bermuda [HEB] executive officer John Harvey said a majority of his organisation's 24 members had accepted the three-year agreement while the remainder had reserved a decision until they could contact their owners.

The contract provides for a 5 percent increase in the first year effective May 24. However, because the increase is not retroactive due to a compromise between union wage demands and the HEB's demand for a wage freeze, the agreement covers only nine months. In the second year, there will be an increase of 5 per cent and 6 per cent in the final year.

## Dominica

### Government Proposes 'Economic Citizenship'

*FL2705174891 Bridgetown CANA in English 1619 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 26, CANA—The Eugenia Charles [government] will seek Parliamentary approval this week of a new policy of economic citizenship linked to efforts to boost foreign investment in Dominica.

Attorney General Jenner Armour will introduce the motion in the House of Assembly Monday. The motion emphasises the critical role government attaches to foreign investment in economic development, particularly in the areas of job creation and foreign exchange earnings.

The government's argument is that countries more developed than Dominica were offering "economic citizenship" as a means of boosting their appeal to foreign investors and Dominica should do likewise. The Charles government said after examining the approaches of countries such as Canada, Australia, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Kitts, Singapore, Belize, the Bahamas, and the Dominican Republic, it was convinced making economic citizenship available was the way to go.

Some opposition MP's have expressed reservations about this approach to investment promotion.

### Gandhi Death Seen as Loss to World Community

*FL2205203191 Bridgetown CANA in English 1903 GMT 22 May 91*

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, May 22, CANA—Dominica joined the world community Wednesday in condemning the assassination of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi Tuesday.

External Affairs Minister Brian Alleyne said the death of Gandhi was not only a loss for India, but the world community. Alleyne said Gandhi was 'a significant leader' who would be remembered for his role in uplifting democracy.

'He was widely seen as not only one of the more successful prime ministers in recent times, but also as the potential next prime minister of India. And this event is bound to put India into some degree of confusion and uncertainty,' Alleyne said.

Opposition Dominica Labour Party (DLP) leader Michael Douglas said he hoped Gandhi's death would cause Indians to realize political problems cannot be solved by violence.

'...Political problems are to be solved by negotiations, and ... violence only deepens the division between people, and is most unlikely to solve the developmental and other problems of the country,' Douglas told CANA [Caribbean News Agency].

## Dominican Republic

### AMD Intensifies Strike, More Services To Halt

*FL2405155191 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0930 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Dr. Altagracia Guzman Marcelino, president of the Dominican Medical Association [AMD], has announced that the association is intensifying its fight in demand for salary increases and improvement of working conditions at health facilities. She reported that today medical services will be halted at the Oncology Institute Heriberto Peter. She added that next Tuesday the doctors will cease work at the Dermatology Institute. The AMD president said that the AMD is getting ready for an intense battle resulting from the government's failure to answer to the demands of the medical sector.

[Begin Guzman recording] Next Tuesday [28 May], services at the Dermatology Institute will be halted. The government is leaving us only one choice—the toughening of the fight. [end recording]

### Three Cuban Artists Seek Asylum, Condemn Castro

*FL2105151891 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0930 GMT 21 May 91*

[Text] Three members of the Cuban comedy troupe (Los Fenomegmecos) currently touring the Dominican Republic, have requested political asylum from the government of President Joaquin Balaguer. During a news conference headed by Ricardo Bofill, president of the Cuban Human Rights Committee in Exile, comedians Jose Enrique Silva, Dennis Suris Castellanos, and Jorge Miguel Gonzalez, accused Castro's regime of being a dictatorship and announced their decision to request political asylum. Silva, who was the spokesman for the group, said that before they departed for the Dominican Republic to conduct a program of artistic events, they had made telephone contact with friends who promised to help them. The political exiles agreed on the reason for their defection—lack of liberties in Cuba. Bofill said that he will present a letter to Balaquer requesting temporary residency for the three comedians who expect to travel to the United States in a few days.

## Grenada

### UN Child Protection Declaration Signed

*FL2205220091 Bridgetown CANA in English 1730 GMT 22 May 91*

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, May 22, CANA—Grenada has become the tenth Caribbean country to ratify the United Nations declaration on the survival, protection, and development of children. After a brief signing ceremony in his office, Prime Minister Nicholas Brathwaite said: "We in Grenada are very concerned about the rights of the child...We have before Parliament a bill relating to the rights of the child."

The bill, now being circulated for public comment before being voted into law, seeks to give children born in and out of wedlock equal rights in respect of inheritance and other benefits. Children born outside of wedlock suffered traditional discrimination.

Brathwaite called on Grenadian adults to play their part in the development of the nation's children.

"We believe that adults have a responsibility to ensure that, through example, children are introduced to values and attitudes which characterize civilized society," he told journalists witnessing the ceremony. "We believe that children, as the adults and leaders of tomorrow, should be prepared for that important role which they would have to play in society."

Brathwaite noted children were being exposed today to social events and issues which they could well do without, including drugs. A social worker drew attention to an apparently growing problem of child molestation and neglect here. Authorities, however, were unable to detect the precise scale of the problem.

In recent times, several Grenadian men have received prison terms for molesting children not yet in their teens. In cases involving children between the ages of five and nine, floggings were also ordered for some offenders.

## Haiti

### Central Bank Report Notes Economic Improvement

*FL2205214891 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 21 May 91*

[Excerpt] The Central Bank [BRH] just published its report on the country's economic activities for the first three months of fiscal year 90-91. According to this report, the country's economic activities improved during the first quarter of the fiscal year, despite continuing escalation in the prices of the most essential commodities. In the same report, BRH makes proposals to the government which would enable the country to follow a more realistic, practical budget policy, according to a colleague of ours.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified colleague] The economic activities of Haiti were better during the beginning of 1991 than during the last quarter of the past fiscal year [as heard]. According to figures published by the Central Bank, exported commodities showed a deficit of 27.2 million gourdes [$5.44 million] between July and September 1990, and a profit [as heard] of 179.5 million gourdes [$35.9 million] between October and December of the same year. According to the Bank analysis, this profit was realized by both the public and private sectors.

For the first quarter of fiscal year 1990-91, Haiti exported products totaling 102.3 million gourdes [$20.46 million], while imported goods totaled 237.6 million gourdes [$47.52 million], for a deficit of 135.3 million gourdes [$27.06 million].

The number of visitors to the country increased too, from 11,947 in the last quarter of 1989-90, to 12,000 for the first quarter of fiscal year 1990-91. The reports add that last December's elections created a flurry of comings and goings throughout the country, which also created a greater circulation of money. As a result, the dollar rose. In the last quarter of 1989-90, the dollar was bought at 48.2 gourdes, while its cost rose to 57.3 gourdes between October and December 1990.

In addition to increasing prices of essential products, the Central Bank notes an increase in public receipts, from 244.6 million gourdes between July and September 1990, to 345.3 million gourdes for the first quarter of fiscal year 1990-91. Expenses dropped slightly, from 364.1 million gourdes in the fourth quarter of the last fiscal year, to 349.4 million gourdes during the first quarter of 90-91. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### Aristide Questions Irregularities at Tax Office

*FL2305124891 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 22 May 91*

[Excerpt] Yesterday, the head of state paid his first visit to a public office by visiting the General Director of Taxes, DGI [Direction Generale des Impots] which was previously called the Contributions Service. The president wanted to see with his own eyes how this administration is functioning and to obtain clearer information about $1 million that has allegedly disappeared at the DGI. This visit created surprise yesterday morning around 0830, at a time when the general manager, Georges Lemercier was not in his office yet. The president was obliged to address several section heads in an effort to obtain information on the irregularities he notes between the figures he has at his disposal and those coming from DGI.

Later, the president met the general manager in the corridor of the building. They engaged in an unfruitful short conversation. The president left the manager with the intention to meet him again on the matter. As he was leaving, journalists took advantage of the opportunity to ask the president several questions on his visit.

[Begin Aristide recording] Actually, I think the head of state is obliged to get in touch with the state employees as often as possible so that he can listen to them and better understand their problems. They also are suffering a lot. The more you get in touch with them the more you will be able to implement Article 136 of the Constitution. Article 136 states: The role of the head of state is to check—it is this verb which it uses—to check if all branches of the state administration and the public administration are working properly. This allows me to compare what I have heard, what I have seen in the files at my disposal. I can check if there are detours, if there are channels which prevent things from reaching their proper destination. When someone pays taxes and contributions, it is important that he can be sure that this money reaches the correct destination to be used properly. [end recording]

This visit to a branch of the public administration, the first visit of the president to the DGI, indicates there will be other visits. The employees took advantage of the event to present several demands to the head of state. [passage omitted]

### Popular Organizations Propose Economic Plan

*FL2505002191 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] The people lost 100 days, but they will not lose five years. This was the evaluation, by five popular organizations, of the first 100 days of the Aristide-Preval government. The organizations, including the Association of Mission Alfa Teachers and Participants [AMAP], the Federation of Neighborhood Committees and Associations [FEDKA], Youth Solidarity [SAJ], Keep an Eye on Them [Veye Yo], and the Carrefour Feuille Youth Movement [MJKF], strongly criticize the executive's economic and political plans. According to these organizations, the government does not show a sincere willingness to satisfy the demands of the popular masses.

These groups suggest an 11-point plan which will help the government change orientation: 1. Replace the members of the Ministerial Cabinet who are voluntarily or involuntarily blocking popular demands. 2. Reconsider certain public administration appointments. 3. Limit the import of individual cars, perfumes, whiskey, in order to increase the gourde's value. 4. Limit the import of goods competing with local products, such as rice, sugar, oil, and cement. 5. Import essential medicines not made in Haiti and encourage the development of traditional herbal medicines. 6. Fix the prices of goods. 7. Establish structures to control these measures. 8. Establish state stores in each department. 9. Establish a law to oblige the wealthy to reinvest part of their profit in the country. 10. Execute the agricultural reform to help peasants keep their indigenous pigs [as heard] 11. Stop applying International Monetary Funds measures.

### FNCD Calls 'Legal Hat' Statement Betrayal

*FL2405214991 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 23 May 91*

[Excerpt] In an open letter to Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide from the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD], this grassroots organization makes some very bitter comments about the president. The letter was in reaction to an interview with HAITI EN MARCHE in which the president clearly stated that FNCD was to him just a legal hat that enabled him to run in the elections.

The FNCD letter asserts that it was, is, and shall continue struggling to achieve a state of order, but that according to the way things are going, they do not yet feel that they are on their way toward the radical change for which they voted. No drastic changes have been made in the administration. Political leaders cannot speak because of the newly arrived Avalanche members [lavalasyen ki fek paret yo].

FNCD asserts that it is disappointed because the president is using the same language used by former dictators. They accuse the president's entourage of responsibility for his withdrawal from the party. In the interview in question, the president told HAITI EN MARCHE that the Presidential Party is the Avalanche, and that this Avalanche Party could encompass such other groups as the FNCD. Following is an excerpt of the FNCD letter:

President, we have read with great interest the interview you gave HAITI EN MARCHE. Well done. You are sincere. Today, we see that your umbilical cord is tied to the truth. But President, allow us to remind you that even though the FNCD signed a protocol agreement with you, you betrayed it worse than Mrs. Ertha Trouillot. Today you say that it was only a legal hat the FNCD gave you. What you have forgotten is that your loyal supporters, your people, were there. They could not give you this hat. You have forgotten the FNCD militants who acted as stepping stones so you could run as a candidate. You have forgotten that FNCD militants faced serious danger so you could get there. You have already forgotten that it was the FNCD that made the commitment to address the Macoute congress in Vertaillis.

Excellence, we in the FNCD grassroots organization, who committed ourselves to forming what you called a small group in order to present you as candidate, are making this statement for posterity to see: We did not elect the president to create division, to attack small parties, large parties, bourgeois parties, people's parties, or presidential parties, but to become president to the entire Haitian people; not to create opposition, because we believe that the fork of division does not drink the soup of democracy.

In conclusion, we wish to tell you that those people who are beside you today could just as easily have been against you. They would be beside someone else if someone else was president. They would have been beside even Lafontant, because they swim in all waters. [passage omitted]

### Justice Minister Visits National Penitentiary

*FL2405150291 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] Yesterday morning at 1030, the new justice minister, lawyer Carl Auguste visited the National Penitentiary to judge the general state of the main prison and all the prisoners. The minister visited each section and listened to the grievances of both common law prisoners and political prisoners, especially the group who attempted the 7 January coup.

Mrs. Marjorie Robeants, who was working with Roger Lafontant, is demanding the right to go to the doctor because her health is not good. We take this opportunity

to remind you that Mrs. Marjorie Robeants went to the General Hospital last week but she did not stay there long. Today, she is demanding her rights. She says she has not been given the right to see her doctor. She adds that even though she was working for Roger Lafontant, this cannot justify the denial of her right to consult her doctor.

Roger Lafontant and Serge Beaulieu spoke of the rat problem in the prison. They denounced the bad state of the prison and the terrible situation which exists there. They say they do not have the right to move around freely. They demand the right to move around freely at least in the prison yard.

Minister Carl Auguste said he will study the files of each prisoner and consider their cases individually. He promised to pay a second visit to the National Penitentiary.

## Jamaica

### Manley Defends Economic Policy of Liberalization

*FL2305174091 Bridgetown CANA in English 1709 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 23, CANA—Jamaica Prime Minister Michael Manley Thursday defended his government's economic model of loosening the tight demand policies of the eighties, saying it was the best way to increase production. Manley was responding to a charge by opposition leader Edward Seaga that the government was returning to the high inflation model of the late seventies which was doomed to fail.

In a three hour address to Parliament, Manley said the major problem facing the country was one of production and the policies being pursued—removing wage guidelines and reducing interest rates—were geared to create the necessary environment for the private sector to unleash its productivity and creativity.

"(We believe) that the wisest course is to work at the (free) market model, recognising what it needs to make it work even if you have to pay a short-term price but we must give it a chance to work," Manley declared in his contribution to the 1991 budget debate.

It was no use, he added, quarreling over the type of economic model to be used as the quicker the country "settled" on one method, the quicker it can progress. The prime minister dealt at length with the question of whether socialism is dead and whether the policies he was pursuing were consistent with democratic socialism. He was speaking against the background of recent newspaper articles which quoted him as saying socialism is dead. Democratic socialism, he asserted, was "very much alive" but there were some areas which were found wanting.

"Is socialism dead," he asked? "I promise you democratic socialism is evolving and it ain't about to die," he stated.

Manley blasted Seaga for suggesting during his presentation on Wednesday that the government might withdraw guarantees on "a" and "b" foreign currency accounts. These accounts allow Jamaican residents to hold foreign exchange at local commercial banks without question and withdrawals can be made at any time without central bank approval. He accused Seaga of trying to "frighten" people from opening accounts.

Manley announced 46 state enterprises would be advertised for divestment. The government, he said, will shortly be offering for sale to existing shareholders half of its remaining 23.4 million shares in the National Commercial Bank. Some two million shares of the other 11 million shares will be offered to Jamaicans resident abroad. The rest will be sold on the basis of a rights issue.

He again defended the granting of a license for a national lottery saying that it should bring in J [Jamaican dollar] 16 million dollars a year for the development of sports in Jamaica.

On constitutional reform, the prime minister expressed regret that the process had had to be put back in order to have a indepth review of the Constitution. He said he was hoping that agreement could have been reached to repatriate the country's national symbol in a short period.

"I don't like the continuation of a system in which the symbols of the country are outside of the country."

The prime minister announced improvements in a number of social benefits for 333,150 persons, mainly pensioners and the elderly. He also announced an increase in the national minimum wage from 130 to 160 Jamaican dollars a week. The wages of household helpers were also raised by 30 dollars to 140 dollars per week. In the area of housing, Manley said some 16,000 persons would receive housing benefits during the year.

Financing, he added, had also been identified for the building of an entertainment and cultural centre which would become a main drawing card for the Jamaican capital.

### Opposition Leader on Manley Economic Policies

*FL2105152691 Bridgetown CANA in English 1350 GMT 21 May 91*

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 21, CANA—Opposition Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) chairman, Bruce Golding, says the Manley government has lost control of the economy.

"The government has lost control....," he told a JLP constituency meeting here Sunday. "(It) does not make things happen, things happen to the government."

Golding said "some real pressure is being felt out there," attributing the situation partly to a doubling of value of the U.S. dollar here in two years. Removal of subsidies at the same time the dollar was climbing, further served to

increase the hardships people are undergoing, he said. The former construction minister said the government had lost moral leadership of the country.

While officials were saying the government cannot subsidize cornmeal and flour, eight million Jamaican dollars was being spent on furnishings of government houses, he said. Golding said there was still money to be traced in respect of the furniture scandal and promised that after the budget debate which ends next Tuesday, the JLP would start tracking down the money.

He also lambasted the goverment for the way in which it had reintroduced a national lottery. The government, he said, had locked itself in a room and called one of their "key persons" to run the lottery. The public, he added, had not been made a part of the decision. A license to operate a national lottery was granted to Sports Development Agency, headed by Howard Hamilton, general manager of Shell (W.I.) Ltd.

### Financial Strike Suspended, Talks To Begin

*FL2105181991 Bridgetown CANA in English 1639 GMT 21 May 91*

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 21, CANA—Workers in Jamaica's financial sector returned to work Tuesday, after a day-long strike. The resumption is ahead of talks between their union and the government planned for later in the day.

The workers voted to return to work during a stormy meeting Monday night at which they emphasised that there was no compromise over their demand for a withdrawal of a proposed tax on concessionary loans. They warned that if the government did not revoke, by Tuesday, the measure which sparked the strike, they would shut down the sector again on Wednesday.

"The tax must go," declared Dwight Nelson, vice-president of the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU), which represents the majority of workers. The employees of banks, building societies, and insurance companies claim that under the new tax regime some of them would get no pay at the end of the week.

Monday's strike action affected 10 commercial banks, the (Central) Bank of Jamaica, insurance companies, and savings and loans institutions. More than 3 million U.S. dollars was reportedly kept out of the official banking system Monday.

Black market operators enjoyed booming business offering up to J 13 dollars for the greenback as tourists in the northcoast resort towns had to change their U.S. dollars and other currencies at hotels or in the black market.

## Salinas Discusses Trade Negotiations With U.S.

*PA2405221891 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2031 GMT 24 May 91*

["Text" of speech by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari in Chetumal, Quintana Roo State on 24 May]

[Text] Mexico City, 24 May (NOTIMEX)—Dear friends from the media, compatriots. As I have stated many times in different forums, our country needs to grow and respond to the needs, demands, and aspirations of 82 million Mexicans, as well as the nearly 2 million Mexicans who are born every year.

To begin growing again, we implemented a strategy that focuses on stabilization by means of establishing discipline over public finances and reaching agreements within the framework of the Economic Growth and Stability Pact, as well as promoting structural changes. This was done to make our productive apparatus more efficient and, above all, more equitable.

We are already growing and fortifying the stabilization process. To grow at a faster peace in a world economy, which is becoming increasingly interdependent, we have to relate with the world's largest centers of commerce, finance, and technology. The basis of our commercial strategy is diversification. This is why we are increasing relations with Latin America, Europe, and the Pacific Basin.

This is also why we have made a proposal to create the largest free trade zone in the world between Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

We have had informal discussions for several months, always respecting the legislative procedures in our respective countries.

In Mexico, the Senate of the republic—within the framework of its constitutional responsibility—has opened a permanent forum for dialogue and communication. The Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development reports weekly on the progress of the process. The fact that all of this is done serves as evidence of Mexico's determination to carry out this exchange in an open and public manner.

A stage in the U.S. legislative process was completed today when both houses of Congress approved the internal procedure to negotiate a trade agreement with Mexico by means of the so-called "fast track." The decision will lead to the signing of the treaty.

A short time ago, I received a telephone call from U.S. President George Bush in which we agreed to initiate formal negotiations between the Mexican and U.S. Governments as soon as possible. We intend to do the same with the Canadian Government.

We will conduct the negotiations as a sovereign nation, always seeking to promote the interests and welfare of all Mexicans throughout the entire country.

The negotiations will be held with prudence, at an appropriate pace and with participation and advise of the various productive sectors in our country. They will be complete and thorough negotiations, and the quality and responsibility of our negotiating team will allow us to achieve the best results for the country.

When the negotiations are concluded, the treaty will be submitted to the Mexican Senate, and we will keep our country's senators completely informed during the negotiation process.

Finally, it is appropriate to note that the treaty is only one of various programs we are carrying out to increase the speed of integration and modern development. The purpose of our strategy is to strengthen the sovereignty of our nation and promote social justice among all Mexicans.

Thank you very much.

### Commerce Secretary on Treaty

*PA2505035391 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0211 GMT 25 May 91*

[Report by Philippe Bach; passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] Minutes after the U.S. Senate approved the fast track mechanism to negotiate a free trade treaty among Mexico, Canada, and the United States, Commerce and Industrial Development Secretary Jaime Serra Puche hosted a news conference.

[Serra] "Having approved the fast track does not mean that a free trade treaty is in force or that the process has ended. It is quite the contrary. The approval of the fast track mechanism means that the negotiations can begin. Our understanding is that we can begin formal negotiations on the free trade treaty in June. The date in June to begin the negotiations has not yet been decided."

The official noted that the approval of the fast track mechanism does not in anyway mean that negotiations will be swift.

[Serra] "The negotiations will take as long as necessary. From the Mexican standpoint, we will take as long as necessary to obtain the best results for our country."

He also insisted that the treaty entails a transition period to open the Mexican economy. Throughout the entire process of negotiation, we will have a mechanism of permanent consultation established with different production sectors and the Senate of the republic.

[Serra] "We, in Mexico, once we conclude the negotiations, will submit it for the consideration of the Senate of the republic, as established by the Mexican Constitution. At that time it will be up to Senate to ratify it or not to ratify it."

Serra said the first meeting with his U.S. and Canadian counterparts will aim at establishing an agenda for the negotiations.

[Serra] "Therefore, the meeting will not be substantial but will serve to establish rules for the negotiations, that is, the agenda and the timetable."

The official said the three countries will agree on the logistics of the negotiations in June to ensure it is done properly and that it is clear for everybody.

### PRI on Voting on Agreement

*PA2505000791 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0239 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Mexico City, 23 May (NOTIMEX)—The Institutional Revolutionary Party, PRI, said today that the decision of the U.S. House of Representatives to negotiate a free trade agreement is a recognition of the Mexican people and government's ability to face the challenge of stable modernization and development in the country.

In a communique published tonight, the PRI said that the result of the vote held today in the U.S. House of Representatives shows recognition and confidence in the current government's programs.

Should the Senate's approval follow that of the House of Representatives, the possibility of inaugurating a new phase in Mexican-U.S. relations will be opened, the communique stressed.

The document said that the U.S. President's initiative represents a great challenge to the creativity, organizational capacity, and productivity of all sectors of Mexican society.

The creation of the most important free zone in the world, considering its volume and economic scope, offers the possibility of achieving mutual benefits, said the communique issued by the PRI National Executive Committee.

### Various Reactions Viewed

*PA2605145491*

[Editorial Report] Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish at 0218 GMT on 25 May broadcasts various reactions to the proposed free trade agreement between the United States and Mexico.

Socorro Diaz, president of the Chamber of Deputies' Great Commission, says that the treaty not only represents the possibility for economic development, but makes it possible for Mexico to apply a new, updated defense of Mexican sovereignty. She also says that it is not through isolation that a nation defends its sovereignty. The Mexican people can apply their right to self-determination only through more dynamic, intense, intelligent, and creative ways.

Emilio Gonzalez, leader of the Mexican Senate, says that the approval of the fast track in the negotiations for a free trade treaty with Mexico indicates that the U.S. Congress fully trusts the Mexican Government. He continues to say that the Mexican people trust President Carlos Salinas to protect the Mexican interests and national sovereignty in the free trade treaty negotiations.

According to Luis H. Alvarez, National Action Party [PAN] leader, the U.S. Congress endorsement of the fast track to negotiate a free trade treaty with Mexico is the beginning of a test for the Mexican negotiators. He added: If the U.S. Congress favors the fast track, let us opt for the defense of the Mexican interests here.

Heberto Castillo, candidate for senator of the Federal District for the Party of the Democratic Revolution [PRD], says that, in view of the imminent negotiation of a free trade treaty with the United States, Mexico should establish its interests and take advantage of the benefits derived from such a treaty, but without neglecting its commercial relations with other areas of the world.

Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish at 2153 GMT on 24 May also carries reaction to the U.S. Congress decision for fast track approval.

Juan Guerra of the PRD proposes making a pact with the Mexican social forces to debate and seek the country's proper participation in multilateral forums such as the free trade agreement.

PAN coordinator Vicencio Tovar announces that his party will soon propose to amend Article 89 of the Constitution so the Congress plenum, and not just the Senate, can determine the Mexican foreign policy and have authority on matters such as the free trade treaty.

### Agreement Viewed With Canadians

*PA2305145691 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 22 May 91*

[Text] James Horsman, minister of federal and intergovernmental affairs for Alberta Province, who is visiting Mexico with a group of Canadian businessmen, has issued some statements on the trilateral free trade agreement.

He said that in negotiating a free trade agreement with the United States, Canada is the great ally of Mexico. He added: Together, Mexico and Canada, who each have small economies compared to the United States, will be able to cope with the tremendous pressure of being neighbors of the world's leading commercial power.

Minister (Horsman) was one of the main negotiators of the Canada- U.S. free trade agreement, and as such he gave some advice to the Mexicans. Based on my experience, he said, I advise Mexico to negotiate from a position of strength and seek just treatment from the United States.

The minister of Alberta Province announced a $500-million line of credit for Mexican Petroleum that has been granted by Canadian companies.

## Mexico Admitted Into Pacific Basin Group

*PA2105202691 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 20 May 91*

[Text] Foreign Relations Secretary Fernando Solana is in Singapore attending the 8th Assembly of the Pacific Basin Economic Cooperation Conference. During the meeting, the organization announced the official integration of Mexico into the group.

The Pacific Basin Economic Cooperation Conference announced the official admission of Mexico, Peru, Chile, and Hong Kong into the organization. The announcement was made a few hours before the beginning of the conference's eigth general assembly. The conference promotes economic development and exchange of information between its member countries.

Mexico's official entry will be on 21 May at the first plenary session. The main topic during the assembly will be: The Pacific, An Answer to a Global Challenge. Representatives from the 19 member countries will participate in the assembly.

Mexico will be represented by the Foreign Relations Secretary Fernando Solana. With this visit to Singapore, Solana starts a working visit through the Asian-Pacific basin. While in Singapore, Fernando Solana will sign a cultural exchange agreement between Mexico and the Republic of Singapore.

Mexico and Singapore have had diplomatic relations since 22 December 1975.

## Foreign Secretary on Admission

*PA2305195191 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 21 May 91*

[Text] Here is what Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana Morales said about the importance of Mexico's entry into the Pacific Basin Economic Cooperation Conference:

[Begin Solana recording] The Pacific Basin Economic Cooperation Conference is undoubtedly the most important forum that exists at this time to promote cooperation among the countries of the area. Mexico had requested admittance some time ago since we were participating as observers. As of today we become full members, and this will allow us to better organize all cooperation matters that we have with the area and with each one of the countries in the area.

I believe that it is of the utmost importance because, economically speaking, the Pacific Basin is the most dynamic zone in the world at this time. [end recording]

## President Salinas Appoints New Attorney General

*PA2305222291 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2045 GMT 21 May 91*

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 21 May (NOTIMEX)—President Carlos Salinas de Gortari today appointed Ignacio Morales Lechuga as new attorney general of the republic, replacing Enrique Alvarez del Castillo, who will assume the duties of director general of Banobras [National Bank of Public Works and Services, Incorporated].

In addition, the president appointed Deputy Miguel Montes Garcia as new attorney general in the Federal District of Mexico, replacing Morales Lechuga.

Gustavo Carvajal Moreno, who served until today as general manager of Banobras, left that position to accept the nomination of the Institutional Revolutionary Party to run for deputy. [passage omitted]

## El Salvador

### FMLN-Government Talks Resume in Caracas

*PA2605151991 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0803 GMT 26 May 91*

[Excerpt] Caracas, 26 May (EFE)—Salvadoran guerrillas and government delegates resumed the talks in the Venezuelan capital today to try to agree on a cease-fire, which could lead to the end of the war that has been devastating El Salvador for 11 years.

"Commanders" Shafik Handal and Joaquin Villalobos represent the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] and Salvadoran Interior Minister [title as received] Oscar Santamaria represents the government in these talks.

Alvaro de Soto of Peru participates as the mediator in the name of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. De Soto is the only person authorized by the sides to comment on the meeting's progress.

At the end of the first meeting, De Soto did not give any details on the subjects of discussion. Except for some unforeseen, exceptional accord, he is not expected to make any announcements until the end of the talks.

The place of meeting of the guerrilla and government representatives has not officially been disclosed. Nevertheless, the Salvadoran Embassy in Caracas said on 24 May that the talks are taking place at the Institute for Higher Studies, located in a mountainous area approximately 15 km south of Caracas. It is guarded by policemen and soldiers.

The FMLN regards the Caracas talks as "decisive" to attain peace, although FMLN delegates think a cease-fire agreement is unlikely because the subjects under discussion are "complex."

The restructuring of the Salvadoran Armed Forces and the cessation of the U.S. military aid are the main obstacles to the dialogue's success as these points are considered "essential." [passage omitted]

### Commentary Outlines Requirements for Cease-Fire

*PA2605013791 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 May 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] What are the political aspects to be resolved prior to a cease-fire? The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] is in favor of a cease-fire that will halt the war and at the same time expand political opportunities. It supports a cease-fire that will bring about the transfer of the military confrontation to the political arena and in this way, begin a period of armed peace which, through negotiations and national concerted efforts, will culminate in an end to the armed conflict and bring about national reconciliation.

In order for the FMLN to agree to a cease-fire, two types of political agreements must first be reached: First, agreements on the topics of the armed forces, human rights, constitutional reforms, judicial and electoral systems, socioeconomic pact, and prior agreements that will guarantee the implementation of what is signed. Second, political agreements prior to the cease-fire for its implementation. These agreements refer to the guarantees for the FMLN's political activity, access to the media, and the separation and location of the two armies. In this commentary, we will address these political aspects that must accompany the cease-fire agreement and that must be implemented beforehand.

#### Opening of Political Activity by the FMLN

The FMLN not only carries out a military struggle, it also carries out a political, diplomatic, and propaganda struggle. The FMLN is predominantly political. Most of its militants are political activists and its military force forms an insurgent army called the National Army for Democracy. The FMLN has carried out its political activity from the underground, from the war fronts, and from the zones in dispute or from abroad. In many cases, it has had to resort to military force to be able to undertake such activity.

Once a cease-fire is in effect, the FMLN must be able to continue to carry out its political activity in an open manner throughout the country, without having to resort to military force. This entails an agreement on the following measures prior to the cease-fire: The repeal of all laws which contravene the right to organize, to free speech, and to maintain a political view—rights which all Salvadorans, including the FMLN, have; the release of all political prisoners and the return to their mass organizations of all those who had to abandon them because of the repression; the public presence in San Salvador of FMLN leaders; and the creation of the necessary conditions so that the FMLN will become a political party and will exercise its right to establish contact with all sectors and to express its opinion on all the country's problems and on the second phase of the negotiations.

The government's main argument against the political opening for the FMLN is that an armed political party cannot exist. This argument is valid during times of peace and when democracy exists, but it makes no sense as long as the military dictatorship, which is the armed wing of the wealthy, is not dismantled. The FMLN will only seek power through electoral means as a political party when the negotiations have concluded and the end of the armed conflict has been resolved.

#### Access to the Media

It is useless to speak about freedom of speech while most of the mass media in El Salvador are in the hands of a few wealthy individuals. At this time, only one businessman, a member of Arena [Nationalist Republican

Alliance], owns three of the four private television channels on the VHF band, several others on the UHF band, 17 radio stations, and 25 percent of the advertising agencies. Two other families, also Arena members, control 90 percent of the newspapers. Therefore, prior to agreeing on a cease-fire, the prevailing imbalance in the control of the mass media must be reduced so as to enter into the political battle in conditions of greater equality and pluralism. This is why the FMLN proposes the following: The approval of a law that will protect professional journalism; another law that will regulate the ownership of communications media and that will prevent a monopoly; granting of licenses to new radio stations or printed media of the popular organizations and social forces; privatization of television Channel 8 and authorization so that the political parties or other sectors can operate on the UHF band, thereby reducing the current imbalance; and a halt to the jamming of the FMLN radio stations, Radio Farabundo Marti and Radio Venceremos, and their subsequent legalization as private communications media.

With the implementation of these measures, the FMLN proposes the elimination of all propaganda that either exalts the war or that exalts a winner in the war, the elimination of all propaganda that contains threats or exalts the use of violence against popular organizations, and the proclamation of all Salvadorans as the winners.

### Reforms Necessary

*PA2605200891 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1708 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] San Salvador, 26 May (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran guerrillas said today that a cease-fire means, not only "silencing the rifles," but determining the causes of the war as well. The guerrillas also reported inflicting 179 casualties on the Army last week.

"President Cristiani knows well that a cease-fire entails more than just signing a piece of paper, as if that is all there is to it," Radio Venceremos, official mouthpiece of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], said today.

Radio Venceremos said that agreements on the Armed Forces, constitutional reforms, and the economic and social system must be reached prior to a cease-fire. "The idea is not only to silence the arms, but to solve the problems that led to the war," the radio station said.

Government and FMLN delegates resumed their negotiations in Caracas yesterday. These talks have been held under UN sponsorship for the past year. The Salvadoran people await with expectation the probable signing of a cease-fire.

In a communique released today, the FMLN reported that its delegation met with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, "who pledged to help us so that peace, the urgent need of all Salvadorans, can be attained soon."

The FMLN described the meeting as "useful and positive" and said that during the meeting, President Perez "recognized the FMLN's flexibility in the previous round of talks held in Mexico City" from 4 to 27 April.

Radio Venceremos said: "We will not betray our ideals and commitment to the people." The station continued to say that the FMLN is determined to seek "a negotiated conclusion of the war, thereby attaining the country's democratic transformation with an overall solution that can guarantee peace for everyone."

Meanwhile, fighting continued in various parts of the country. According to Radio Venceremos, the Army suffered 179 casualties from 19 to 25 May, a report that government sources have not confirmed.

The rebels said that the Army casualties include three officers, without explaining if they are dead or wounded, and that they took three prisoners, one from the Cavalry Battalion and two from the 1st Infantry Brigade.

During the past week, the FMLN seized 11 rifles, an M-79 grenade launcher, and 12 military radio sets. As part of its sabotage drive against the electrical power system, the guerrillas blew up 87 pylons, Radio Venceremos said.

San Salvador Auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez on Sunday expressed the hope that the government and FMLN delegations "can be inspired by an unbending willingness for peace."

### Commentary Views Remarks by U.S. Official

*PA2605013891 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 25 May 91*

[Station commentary: "Mr. Aronson's Indifference"]

[Text] Inasmuch as purging the Armed Forces is such a delicate subject, the negotiations process will go into one of the most troublesome stages. This, however, is only one of the points seriously affecting the discussions, which are being held amid a background of a growing social dissatisfaction. The land seizures and the constant halts in the government activities are evidence of the dramatic social situation of thousands of Salvadorans, and the government is up against the wall.

Only the wealthy entrepreneurs and the Armed Forces can afford to see the stale phantom of communism behind the demands for land by a barefoot peasant and to close their eyes to the tragic injustices that large groups of Salvadorans have endured. It is within this context of the country's social agitation that the United Nations has authorized the establishment of the United Nations Observers for El Salvador to verify the human rights situation, and the U.S. State Department—in the voice of Mr. Bernard Aronson—has made a biased statement.

We are surprised that Mr. Aronson, who showed his firm support for the negotiations, is now taking sides and

unilaterally accusing the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. He has referred in a deliberately indifferent manner to the murder of the Jesuit priests, an atrocious crime commited by the military chiefs and the elite troops that they [the United States] nursed at Fort Bragg.

Even so, just like the U.S. State Department official, we believe that the time to end the war is here. We are prepared for a cease-fire, which will only be possible if the United States understands that the time is here to suspend all assistance, logistical aid, and help from the U.S. advisers. We are pleased that the United States is already thinking of an armed peace, [paz armada] and will contribute, as Mr. Aronson said, without any reservations and in impartial manner toward material aid, when the two armies existing in the country are totally demobilized.

The signing of a cease-fire will be a victory for the civilian population, and the Armed Forces, which was unable to win the war in 11 years, will have to accept it. The Armed Forces will have to answer to the people for the atrocious crimes commited against them.

In Caracas, as we search for agreements on purging the Armed Forces, we will also have the opportunity to monitor the truthfulness of the U.S. determination, as voiced by Mr. Bernard Aronson, especially in the area of deep reforms in the Armed Forces, which the UN Security Council is demanding in a quick and flexible manner.

### Attack Noted; Arena Says No Reform Dialogue

*PA2405142991 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0905 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] San Salvador, 24 May (NOTIMEX)—The Salvadoran political parties today condemned the guerrilla attack on military positions in San Salvador which killed two women and wounded nine people.

Urban units of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) attacked the 1st Infantry Brigade in northwestern San Salvador on 22 May. In addition to the two deaths, they also wounded three soldiers and six civilians, damaged 10 houses, and destroyed two vehicles.

Fidel Chavez Mena, president of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), expressed his "rejection" of the rebel actions, in which civilians were affected. He also said "the acts of violence by the Army against peasants must also stop."

Ruben Zamora, leader of the Democratic Convergence, condemned at the Legislative Assembly the FMLN attack and joined with Chavez Mena in denouncing "the arbitrary actions committed by the military forces against the population."

Raul Somoza Alfaro, deputy of the ruling Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena), stressed that at the 21 May meeting between the political parties and the FMLN in Managua, the rebel command promised to reevaluate the car bomb attacks and other operations so as not affect the civilian population.

"Nevertheless, the next day they staged an attack which claimed victims who had nothing to do with the armed conflict," the Arena legislator stressed.

Chavez Mena also said the PDC wants the Legislative Assembly to debate the ratification of the constitutional reforms approved by the previous assembly, because these "have their own merit, independent from the cease-fire."

"The UN Observer Mission for El Salvador (Onusal) is coming to supervise respect for human rights in this country, and the best thing would be to have already approved the articles dealing with the creation of the office of human rights ombudsman," Chavez Mena said.

Nevertheless, Somoza Alfaro indicated that Arena will maintain its position of ratifying the reforms only after the FMLN "makes commitments with regard to a cease-fire that will make possible its incorporation (in society) as a political party."

"As chairman of the legislative commission, I can state that we will not permit even the discussion of the ratification of the reforms as long as there is no sign of goodwill from the FMLN," he reiterated.

### Army Reportedly Attacks Human Rights Group

*PA2805013991 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0010 GMT 28 May 91*

[Text] All Salvadorans have stated that we can live without an army. What happened on 25 May in San Francisco Gotera appears more like a fairy tale than reality. On that date, the motorcade of Codehuca [Commission for the Defense of Human Rights in Central America] that traveled to the Ciudad Segundo Montes was prevented from getting there by order of Colonel Oscar Alberto Leon Linares, the man responsible for murdering the Jesuit priests.

It is worthwhile to live without an army, particularly an Army such as ours, which only represses the population and commits actions such as the one that took place on 25 May.

The Codehuca decided to hold its 10th General Assembly in the capital of El Salvador. The theme of the General Assembly was called The Peace, Life, and Self-Determination of the People. Representatives from Central America, Panama, Belize, as well as observers from the United States, Canada, and Mexico participated in the General Assembly of Codehuca. This meeting was dedicated to the memory of the martyrs who fell during the U.S. invasion of Panama in December 1989. The Codehuca had planned to conclude its General Assembly in two refugee communities, that is, La Nueva Trinidad in Chalatenango Department and Ciudad Segundo Montes in Morazan Department.

When the Codehuca members were traveling by car to Morazan Department, troops led by Leon Linares and directed by Lieutenant Solis Ramirez prevented them in a violent and repressive manner from advancing. The troops fired at the legs of Codehuca members to prevent them from continuing. This is a violation of the San Jose Agreements and several articles of the Constitution of El Salvador. The troops of Military Detachment No. 4 seized the keys of the vehicles, and the Codehuca members were attacked and intimidated, some receiving death threats. Later, more than 100 well-equipped soldiers arrived at the location where the Codehuca members were being held, and cordoned off the area. The Codehuca members were then surrounded. Lt. Solis Ramirez told the Codehuca representatives that they would be allowed to go on foot to the Military Detachment No. 4 headquarters, so they could ask for permission to continue. When the Codehuca representatives began walking, the troops fired at their legs.

The Codehuca reported that the incident details will be available internationally, because one Costa Rican deputy, a U.S. congressman, and some Spanish officials were among the delegation. In addition, in its conclusions, the Codehuca noted [words indistinct]. The Codehuca also requested that Central American governments demand respect for human rights agreements signed in [words indistinct].

### Army Reportedly Stops International Delegation

*PA2705233991 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] We inform the Salvadoran people, national and international media, human rights defense organizations, and UN human rights organizations that at approximately 0800 on 25 May the Army stopped a group comprised of 20 international delegates from America and Europe, representing eight organizations from Spain, The Netherlands, Germany, Costa Rica, Canada, Denmark, Mexico, and the United States. Members of local organizations such as the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission and others who were accompanying the international delegates were also detained.

They were detained at the Colima Bridge. Troops of the 4th Infantry Brigade in El Paraiso controlling that checkpoint prevented the delegation from crossing the bridge. The delegates were going to visit communities and towns in Chalatenango to learn about the life, development, and struggle of those communities, where self-development projects have been implemented. They were also interested in learning about development problems, such as the constant violation of human rights committed by the Salvadoran Army against those communities during military operations.

We have been informed that all the efforts conducted by the delegation throughout the day were useless. They had to contact the Army's General Staff and the commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade's Military Detachment No. 1, but all their efforts were in vain. The Army would not allow the international delegates to enter those territories.

We have also learned that a group of members of the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission managed to cross the Colima checkpoint, but were chased by members of the Army dressed in civilian clothes who followed them all day to the Amayo turnoff.

Denying entrance to these international delegations is a violation of human rights and all humanitarian principles. We hold the Army's General Staff and the commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade and Military Detachment No. 1 responsible for this new violation of human rights. The officers of the High Command, the 4th Brigade, and Military Detachment No. 1 owe an explanation to Onusal [UN Observers for El Salvador]. This international delegation has confirmed the repressive nature of the Armed Forces and the government and the absolute disrespect for human rights and freedom of movement that the Salvadoran people face daily.

## Guatemala

### Heavy Clashes Between Army, Rebels Reported

*PA2405202091 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1746 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Quetzaltenango, 24 May (NOTIMEX)—Inhabitants of the region who are fleeing here have reported that there have been heavy clashes between Guatemalan Army troops and rebels for the last 72 hours, 39 km from this city.

The clashes are taking place between the towns of Cabrican, 246 km west of the country's capital; and Huitan, which is 5 km closer.

According to witnesses who come from those towns, heavy artillery can be heard hundreds of meters away.

Families that are running away from the clashes told this correspondent that the children are no longer going to school due to the clashes.

Until now, no official source has reported the information, and it is not known whether there have been any casualties.

In the country's capital, the Army's Information and Press Department denied having any information in that regard.

The area from which the people are running is considered a zone of conflict due to the presence of Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) rebels.

President Jorge Serrano's government and the General Command of the URNG started direct negotiations on 24 April to search for a solution to the armed conflict. A second round of negotiations, to be held between 17 and 22 June somewhere in Mexico, was announced yesterday.

### Columnist Views Cuba's Role in Negotiations

*PA2505231391 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 May 91 p 10*

["Telescope" column by Mario Antonio Sandoval: "Surprising Negotiations"]

[Text] According to Guatemalan political analyst Julio Ligorria, who lives in Miami, there have been some type of meetings between representatives of the Guatemalan Government and the regime of Fidel Castro as part of the necessary formalities prior to ending the insurgent struggle in Guatemala. This information was first reported by an international news agency and later privately confirmed to Ligorria. Ligorria described these talks as trickery against Guatemala because of the direct Cuban involvement in endorsing the 30-year long insurgent war. Given the importance of this matter, the government of President Jorge Serrano should explain whether these meetings have indeed taken place, where, with whom, what the agenda has been, and the conclusions reached. Had these meetings taken place, they could be one of the fundamental reasons why the Guatemalan Government has expressed optimism about reaching a prompt agreement between both sides.

In this case, the main aspect that should be taken into consideration is not the vitality of the Cuban regime or how close its downfall is, which is longed for by all Cubans in exile. If these conversations have taken place, two things should be made public: First, what did the Guatemalan Government offer the Cuban Government in exchange for its support? Second, what is the real level of influence exerted by Castro on the guerrilla organizations grouped in the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG]. There is one appreciable fact: Even though the URNG has no possibility of achieving a military victory in Guatemala, it could very well wage a continuous war of attrition and destruction of the infrastructure. At this moment, the regime of Fidel should adopt a more neutral stand, if not supportive one, with regard to other Latin American countries and the international community, before facing its future downfall. These two facts can contribute to the attainment of peace in Guatemala. Therefore, the conversations between the Guatemala Government and the regime of Fidel could have some degree of justification, and they are not as unjustifiable as it may appear to the naked eye.

Every consideration should be made in order to end the war. The coming of peace will create an entirely new situation, thus it becomes necessary that we prepare for this new reality. We should all be prepared for this new reality, which will demand that we demonstrate a willingness to forgive. It is very difficult for those who are not yet ready to accept the need to forgive to function in an atmosphere of peace. In this case, Fidel Castro has been largely responsible for the bloodbath in Guatemala, because he wanted to settle the score for the invasion of Bay of Pigs. Those who participated in the Bay of Pigs invasion were trained here and in Nicaragua. The social and economic conditions that existed in Guatemala then were ideal for turning the country into the first place to experiment with the export of the Cuban revolution. We have all paid in one way or another for the consequences of that historical occasion. Now, if the presence of Cuba in the negotiations can become an element that will contribute to the attainment of a cease-fire, this offer cannot be rejected immediately. Quite the contrary: It is necessary to take advantage of it.

Guatemala, of course, cannot resolve all of Cuba's problems. This task will be better served by Spain or Mexico, countries where that attitude would not provoke criticism by Julio Ligorria. Guatemala can take advantage of the new international situation in the world in order to benefit the country. The conversations with the Cubans clearly establish the new kind of realities for which we should be prepared. At this moment, the current government has the best opportunity for beginning negotiations. This is known to all the participants of the current historic moments, and Guatemalan negotiators should take advantage of this situation in order to attain the long-awaited peace. But this issue has the necessary importance needed to bring it to the public's attention, because in the last few days there has been good reason to seek negotiations in a successful manner. While the situation clears up, it is important to reiterate the need to continue the peace talks as soon as possible.

## Honduras

### Cinchonero Unit Attacks Former Insurgent Leader

*PA2705230691 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2158 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 27 May (DPA)—A commando unit of the Cinchonero People's Liberation Movement [MPL] has attacked Roger Eludin Gutierrez, former commander of the group who on 10 May gave up the armed struggle, along with three other members of the insurgent leadership.

The attack occurred last night in San Pedro Sula, 255 km from Tegucigalpa, when the commando unit shot him four times. According to a police spokesman, Roger Eludin Gutierrez was hospitalized in San Pedro Sula and underwent emergency surgery. His condition is serious.

The police spokesman also said the former commander identified one of his attackers as Commander "Raul," responsible for guerrilla operations in the mountains.

The Cinchonero MPL said in a public communique that it rejected its former leaders' abandonment of the armed struggle and that it will continue its actions to promote the revolution.

It also announced it will execute the four leaders who abandoned the organization and who accepted the government proposal to return to Honduras and publicly renounce the armed struggle.

### Commander Rejects 'Meddling' in Political Affairs

*PA2505165091 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 24 May 91 p 4*

[Text] Juticalpa (Olancho)— Armed Forces Commander General Luis Alonso Discua said here yesterday that the military is not interested in becoming involved, or in meddling, in political affairs.

Discua Elvir stated this when asked about the statement given by Liberal Party presidential hopeful Ramon Villeda Bermudez, who requested on 22 May the Armed Forces' cooperation in the electoral process, claiming that fraud is reportedly being prepared by the National Electoral Tribunal (TNE) and sponsored by the ruling party.

Villeda Bermudez said that the fraud is being prepared for the November 1993 elections, and he accused members of the National Party of Honduras, PINU [Innovation and Unity Party], and Christian Democratic Party of being involved.

Referring to this, he requested the intervention of the Armed Forces, arguing that it must be alert to any electoral fraud, and specifying that the law states that the military should guarantee order in the country.

"The military have nothing to do with this situation because we are apolitical and we have no right to meddle in anyway. Thus, we are not even thinking about becoming involved in political issues," the military commander said.

He later added: "Since this is merely a political issue, it must be solved by the political parties—those which have good leaders—and I have no doubt that they will solve the impasse."

On the other hand, the general termed as very positive the announcement about a national consultation, adding that—as the Armed Forces' representative—he has always stated that the best way to solve problems is through dialogue, rather than by force.

## Nicaragua

### President Reiterates Policy on Return of Property

*PA2505200791 Paris AFP in Spanish 1858 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] Managua, 25 May (AFP) - Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro reiterated today her decision to return the properties confiscated during the Sandinist revolution (1979-90) [as received] to their former owners, except for the lands that were given to peasants.

Chamorro stated in a communique that the peasants who were given land by the Sandinista regime will receive their land ownership titles. "The commitment is still firm, the peasants will have their titles and those who had their property confiscated will get an answer," said the president. President Chamorro has been in power since 25 April 1990.

Chamorro made the announcement after approving a decree through which she sanctions a ruling from the Supreme Court of Justice declaring partially unconstitutional the law that created the government's Confiscations Revision Commission [Comision de Revision de Confiscaciones].

The court decided that Articles 7 and 11 of the decree infringe upon the sovereignty of the judicial branch and, therefore, the commission's resolutions must be seen as only recommendations to the executive branch, and not judicial sentences.

Article 7 orders "the devolution of the property or the recognition of some right" with the help of "the public force if it is necessary."

Article 11 establishes that the decision to return property "shall serve as sufficient title to exercise full rights over the claimed goods, rights, and deeds."

The president said that she would reassign duties to the aforementioned commission and determine what institutions may return properties in dispute. Meanwhile, thousands of persons who had their property confiscated by the Sandinists await a resolution that will favor their claims.

### Teachers, Government Negotiate To End Strike

*PA2805015691 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] [Announcer] We now have a report on the negotiations between the education minister and the delegates of ANDEN [National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers]. Here is Francisco Marin Suarez, secretary general of Fenitec, which is the Nicaraguan Federation of Education and Culture Workers [Federacion Nicaraguense de Trabajadores de la Educacion y la Cultura, Fenitec]. He will provide more details.

[Marin Suarez] We can report to our country's education sector that the government and the education unions have reached an agreement, putting an end to the 50-day strike. One of the agreements establishes that the teaching career law will begin to be implemented with the increase the government grants to the Education Ministry. Still pending for July are discussions by the education authorities and the unions on the basic salary, points for the teachers' register, retirement, and training issues. These will be fully implemented in 1992 after approval by the Legislative Assembly. Point two of the agreements establishes that within the framework of the fulfillment of the teaching career law, the government will grant 25 percent of the total education payroll in May and that 20 percent will be granted in June and 5 percent in August. [sentence as heard] The unions will distribute this to the teachers, and we will decide

whether all education workers will be included. Fenitec supports [words indistinct] in improving their salaries. The agreements also establish that a future decision on the basic salary, in other words, what is approved on the basic salary, will not affect the agreements signed today and that any decree on readjustments or devaluation will benefit the education workers. The MED [Education Ministry] will include parts of these agreements in temporary clauses in the teaching career law with the intention of rendering them more specific next year.

It has also been decided to resume classes at 0800 tomorrow. The MED and the teachers will take measures to recover the time lost by adopting such measures as having classes on Saturdays, holidays, or during vacations, and by setting up intensive programs through agreement between the MED and the teachers.

Another agreement is that the MED pledges not to take any reprisals against those who participated in the strike or those who expressed support for it. The education workers and the union leaders promise to maintain mutual respect between workers and management. The MED also stated that prior to 17 June, all the payments owed to the teachers with regard to social benefits, incomplete salaries, and promotions will be paid.

The government and the unions also agreed to respect the right to work, the right to strike, and the basic principle that the rights of each individual are limited by the rights of others. Along with the government, we committed ourselves to peace and national reconciliation, for the good of the educational community. As a result, we both pledged to resolve all conflicts through dialogue and negotiations and through legal means.

The agreements were signed by Education Minister Humberto Belli and Finance Minister Emilio Pereira for the government; Hector Garcia, Francisco Marin, and Fernando Sequeira for Fenitec; Mario Casco, Nicolas Morales, and Cesar Cuevas for the National Confederation of Teachers; Mario Quintana, Guillermo Martinez, Jose Antonio Cepeda, Felix Lopez, and Jose Luis Villavicencio for ANDEN.

### Students Continue Support

*PA2505135391 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1205 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] The student support to the teachers' movement has increased. The takeover of government offices by high school students who support the teachers' demands has extended to eight cities throughout the country.

Six government offices, including the Government Ministry's regional office, have been taken over by the youths in Wiwili. Thirty students took over the Telcor [Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services] offices in Jinotepe last night. Similar actions occurred in Corinto, El Viejo, Granada, Masaya, and Matagalpa.

The students who are still inside the National Palace in Managua demanded that the teachers and government quickly solve the conflict so that they may return to class. The talks were suspended yesterday at 2200 and they will be renewed at the Education Ministry today at 0900. The strike has been going on for 48 consecutive days.

### Action To Remove Students Noted

*PA2705172791*

[Editorial Report] Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 27 May carries a seven-minute report on police actions to dislodge students who have been occupying the National Palace and other government offices across the country. The announcer discloses that according to one of the 500 students at the National Palace, riot police and patrol cars got within 300 meters of the palace early this morning before withdrawing. This is followed by a recording of one of the students who claims that they are "on alert, ready and waiting" if they are attacked by police.

According to the announcer, on 26 May police in Masaya dislodged 30 students who were occupying a government office as a show of support for striking teachers. The announcer reports that Miguel Lopez, a high school student from Masaya, said this morning that as a result of last night's action, the students have seized a regional school. The announcer claims that the teachers occupying the Education Ministry offices could be dislodged by police this morning. The announcer adds that according to Education Minister Humberto Belli, the government has plans to recover all public offices in the hands of the students as of last week.

The announcer discloses that the participants of the eight-week long teachers' strike were waiting for the government to summon them to resume negotiations. The announcer states that Education Minister Humberto Belli said that he had suspended the negotiations on 25 May because the teachers had not left his office. According to the announcer, the teachers claim "they do not trust the government" because many prior commitments have simply not been fulfilled. The announcer adds that teachers claim that Minister Belli did not pay all Education Ministry payrolls and other payments on 6 May, and those teachers have still not received their money.

The announcer reports that early this morning police dislodged 150 students in Esteli from five government offices, including the Government Ministry, the UN Development Program, and the Repatriation Program offices. According to the announcer, as a result of tear gas and clubs used in the police operation, five students were injured. The announcer reports that after the students were dislodged from the offices they regrouped in front of the building where they are being supported by Esteli residents.

### H. Ortega's Candidacy for President Viewed

*PA2605004191 Managua EL NICARAGUENSE in Spanish 20-26 May 91 p 15*

[Unattributed article: "General Ortega Hopes To Be Nicaraguan President"]

[Text] Based on a statement he recently made in Liberia, Costa Rica, General Humberto Ortega, brother of former President Daniel Ortega, has not ruled out the possibility of running for president in the 1996 elections.

When a Costa Rican reporter asked him if he had any intention of running for the Nicaraguan presidency, Gen. Ortega said that his main priority now is "consolidating" peace in Nicaragua.

He completed his statement with what could be considered key words: "That can be decided later on."

Those words went almost unnoticed by Nicaraguan and Costa Rican reporters, but not some international news agencies, which even noted the possibility that Gen. Ortega could resign his post as Army commander two years before President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro completes her presidential term in 1996 to engage the Sandinist National Liberation Front's, FSLN, in an electoral campaign.

Gen. Ortega said that he is currently dedicated to fulfilling his duties as Army commander and that he personally was not seeking that position. He immediately added the phrase: "That can be decided later on."

Some of the officers who accompanied Gen. Ortega on his visit to Liberia, as part of a government delegation, which also included Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, were asked their opinion. They said that any Nicaraguan has the right to become president of their country, adding that "we would support Gen. Ortega's candidacy, but there has been no decision yet in that regard."

The FSLN will hold its congress on 19 July and during that time the national directorate will be expanded.

Tomas Borge, who is presently writing and traveling, is another presidential hopeful. So far, however, only Gen. Ortega has said "that can be decided later on."

### Government Minister Discusses Washington Trip

*PA2605020191 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] The Government Ministry, with the support of the OAS, will begin a campaign to disarm civilians. Government Minister Carlos Hurtado has said this while reporting on his trip to Washington. He said that the United States will also aid in the fight against drug trafficking.

The government minister announced that he met with high-ranking U.S. Government officials and members of Congress to discuss Nicaragua's political situation and to request aid in the fight against drug trafficking.

[Begin Hurtado recording] Material support is something that will not be received immediately, as we had foreseen, but rather, it will take some time. On the training aspect, however, we will begin training courses for our, let us say, fledgling antinarcotics police almost immediately. [end recording]

He said that courses in criminology techniques will also begin. Hurtado also met with OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares, with whom he reached a few agreements on the disarming of civilians.

[Begin Hurtado recording] We are going to launch a campaign to raise funds that will allow us to set up a large-scale operation, on the national level, to continue disarming civilians. We also spoke about extending the International Support and Verification Commission's stay here, which is scheduled to end in February 1992. On instructions from President Chamorro, I proposed to the secretary general that this period be extended to June 92. [end recording]

Hurtado affirmed that the government has expressed its willingness to clarify the deaths of Jean Paul Genie and Enrique Bermudez. In relation to the Bermudez case, he said the investigations were progressing and that permission was being sought from Bermudez' relatives to exhume the body and perform the necessary analyses.

Asked if Police Chief Commander Rene Vivas will remain in his post, Hurtado explained that the final decision will come from the executive branch.

## Panama

### PDC Analyzes Government Economic Plan

*PA2605002291 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 24 May 91 pp A-1, A-10, A-11*

["Analysis" of the "Program for the Modernization of the Economy" by the Christian Democratic Party, PDC]

[Text] Panama already lives in democracy but needs to consolidate it. For this reason, the country requires serious social and economic changes to overcome the poverty of nearly half our population and the alarming unfairness in the distribution of wealth and opportunities.

These changes should lead us to a social market economy. Not just a market economy that leaves out broad sectors of the population, but what Pope John Paul II calls "a social economy that orients the operation of the market for the common good."

This entails constructing a society of free work, enterprise, and participation, in which the social forces and the government stimulate the market to meet the basic needs of everyone, particularly those who possess and can withstand less.

The transition to this free and just society must be based on the mutual trust between those who govern and the governed, with a sense of social balance so the greater cost of the changes does not fall on the poor, and with sufficient time and resources so that economic factors can adapt, national production does not collapse, and unemployment does not increase. This transition must take place with an awareness of both our identity and national interests. This is why an inclusive socioeconomic development program, which meets these demands, is required.

The government has just announced a "Program for the Modernization of the Economy," which attempts to outline the path to transition. This plan merits serious consideration, particularly because it contains several measures more drastic than the previous ones and fails to include others, which are indeed necessary.

The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has a few comments on the program. The party seeks three objectives: To contribute to a public and democratic debate on the program; to pave the way for the talks on the program that the party intends to hold with the country's leading socioeconomic organizations; and to enhance the Legislative Assembly debates of the corresponding proposals so it will be easier to determine what is necessary to approve, modify, or reject.

It is thus that the PDC is helping, as a democratic opposition, the country correctly choose the socieconomic changes that respond to our people's needs and avoid costly mistakes.

1. Background of the New Program:
During the 1989 electoral campaign, ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] presented an **Agenda for National Reconstruction.**

Once in office, first came the **Strategy for Development and Economic Modernization**, presented by the Mippe [Planning and Economic Policy Ministry] in mid-1990, which was not approved by the cabinet that included PDC.

Then came the **Guidelines for Development and Economic Modernization** that were approved by the government last September, after discussion with the economic sectors.

Now, 17 months later, the government announces a new **Program for the Modernization of the Economy** as result of "an agreement in principle" between Vice President Guillermo Ford and international financial institutions. According to financial representatives, the sketchy nature of the text make additional information and development necessary. **Therefore, the total plan and its details are still not known.**

Also, it warns, we must still wait for "the final evaluation mission from the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank [IDB]," with whom it will be necessary to review "the action plans" and reach a **definite agreement** early in July. **Therefore, one cannot rule out the possibility that significant changes may be made to the agreement.**

Since the mentioned agreement must be implemented early in 1993, it is easily surmised that there are plans for **an additional agreement** to complement the current one. Nothing is mentioned about the second one although it must have already been discussed. **Thus, there is a concern that the second agreement includes even more severe demands.** 2. Comments on the Program's Announcement:

2.1 A government economic team that has not been able to carry out the first important privatization in 17 months, or to implement a coherent policy concerning a specific problem like the beef price issue, has very little credibility when it announces an overall economic program.

Urgent measures are needed to restore the minimum trust between the government and the people, because that bond does not exist right now. The main condition for this is that the country should be told the truth about what is being negotiated with the international financial institutions.

2.2 In a democracy, the executive branch should not talk as if it rules alone because what it announces requires the approval of the legislative branch. Likewise, a minister should not announce an economic program and pretend that any opinion which differs from his is a "lie," or "demagoguery," or a "political scheme." Constructive criticism must be respected.

2.3 The **Program** that is now announced is much more drastic than the **Guidelines** that were approved in September 1990. The minister admitted in his speech that, even if we had paid our past due debt to the international financial institutions, they would demand from us an economic program to restore credit. This proves that the primary goal sought by the new **Program** is for Panama to become eligible for international credit. **The government is more interested in paying its financial debt than in adopting an overall program for true development and modernization.** 3. What are some of the more drastic measures announced in the Program?

International financial representatives admitted, in a meeting with PDC representatives, that there are important differences between the **Program** that is now presented and the **Guidelines** that the government approved last year, when the PDC was part of the government.

These differences include the following:
3.1 **The lack of protection for the industrial sector will quickly worsen.** It is foreseen that the new customs tariffs (ad valorem, non-specific) will be reduced to a maximum of 40 percent (industrial) and 50 percent (agro-industrial) before 1 January 1993. The **Guidelines** only foresaw that the tariffs would be reduced to a maximum of 60 percent and 90 percent, respectively, before 1 January 1991.

3.2 **The lack of protection for the agrarian-livestock sector is also foreseen.** The **Program** does not specify when the sector's quotas will be eliminated, when the import tariffs will be reduced, and what will be the final customs tariffs. The **Program** eliminates the pledge—included in the **Guidelines**—to maintain the import quotas for 30

months and to replace them in June 1993 with an equivalent protection in each sector.

While the minister's speech to announce **the Program** implied that the sector's liberalization would only be of an internal nature, **the Program** itself reveals an internal and external liberalization. It is also said that the liberalization will be carried out with the technical assistance of the World Bank, which proposes the elimination of quotas in approximately one year, and the quick reduction of ad valorem tariffs to a maximum of 40-50 percent before January 1993. Moreover, the adoption of effective "anti-dumping" measures is not mentioned.

3.3. **The stance on state enterprises has become radicalized.** **The Guidelines** foresaw the establishment of "contract plans" (that means, formally agreed upon and binding plans) for three years, which could be renewable, between the government and the IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification], Idaan [National Water and Sanitation Institute], Intel [National Institute of Telecommunications], and the National Port Authority [APN]. They mentioned the possiblity of privatizing some specific services, not the whole institutions. The president publicly reaffirmed this. On the contrary, the **Program** proposes the privatization of Intel (since it will become a stock company, with the state keeping a decreasing minority of shares) and the privatization of the APN's load-handling operations.

The comptroller general, who was the first to mention publicly the policy to privatize Intel, something contrary to the **Guidelines**, justified it as a way to pay the foreign debt. Now the planning minister dismisses that explanation as "demagoguery" and proposes a new policy, based on technological reasons, which does not adjust to Intel's situation.

It is known that the IDB approved the policies contained in the **Guidelines**, and that the World Bank insisted on the policy that is now included in the **Program.** It is not known why Mippe changed its stance.

3.4 **Public sector jobs drop sharply in a very short time.** In the **Agenda for National Reconstruction,** the ADOC presidential slate promised to "maintain the current level of employment in the public sector," out of social and economic reasons. The **Guidelines** proposed "institutional reforms on the matter of organization, function, personnel, and system" within a three-year period.

In a 21 March 1991 document, however, sent to the Mippe, the World Bank states:

**"A reduction in regular spending will only be possible through a substantial reduction of public jobs. A program to reduce public jobs is contained on the attached chart, noting a reduction of 18,912 jobs between late January 1991 and late December 1991. Also shown in the attached chart are intermediate goals to reduce 4,626 public jobs by December 1991 and 9,356 jobs by July 1992.** [no end quotation mark as published]

Now, the **Program** announces that 8,400 jobs have been reduced already, and that personnel services spending will be lowered by 10 percent, as compared to 1990. It is said with much fanfare that this reduction will be achieved without dismissals, but the measures announced to achieve this goal are not convincing. In fact, many of the vacancies that existed until 31 May, which would have to be frozen, are in the sectors experiencing urgent needs, such as education, health, and public security, although it is said that there will be no freeze there. Transferring employees to the private sector will hardly be done this year, and **it is not true, as Ford stated, that privatized enterprises will have the same number of employees.** In addition, recent practice shows that dismissals are disguised as resignations, and that some top positions are filled again with higher salaries.

The fact is, thus, that a substantial reduction in the public sector is planned one way or another, without foreseeing compensation plans or transferences to other sectors. That way, unemployment will go up at time when the private sector is not creating new jobs.

3.5. **A tax on the consumption of services is introduced on a limited basis, as part of the tax reform.** The **Strategy** openly endorses a new value added tax (IVA, equivalent to another sales tax) on services. That proposal disappeared from the **Guidelines,** which did not make specific proposals on tax matters. Now, the **Program** proposes lowering and streamlining the income tax on corporations and individuals. At one time, the government thought that the loss of revenue stemming from these measures would be compensated by a greater readiness on the part of the taxpayers to accept the new rates, with a more efficient and simpler collection system. The financial institutions insisted on new taxes, whether on cigarettes or alcohol, whether an IVA or sales tax. The institutions' formula prevailed.

The **Program**, therefore, proposes a 10 percent IVA, limited to "luxury" restaurants, bars, and nightclubs. Several questions arise: Why didn't the government maintain its criteria before the financial institutions? What guidelines will be used to classify luxury establishments so that other popular establishments with high sales volumes are not included? What guarantees are there that the government will not agree later on to expand the application of the IVA sales tax to other services?

4. Which are some of the main gaps in the program?

In addition to having several measures that are more drastic than the ones approved previously, the **Program** has a characteristic of not providing for several other eventualities. Its most important gaps are:

4.1 **The program's chapter on the social sector is not specific and does not contain any quantifiable information on the so-called "strategy to reduce poverty in Panama." The same can be said for unemployment. The chapter on labor policies only states that "the government will establish measures geared to reducing the large unemployment**

**levels." Originally, it had been established that the Special Social Fund (FES) would have 200 million balboas. It has only received 20 million and these have already been spent. FES, however, was not mentioned at all in the Program.**

**We need substantial social compensation programs so that the cost of structural change does not fall disproportionately on the poor people but will rather allow the lower-income sectors to participate in the market. The financial institutions have helped several countries finance their social compensation plans. Why has the government not been able to do the same for Panama?**

4.2 In regard to the sudden and radical lack of protection to the agricultural and industrial sectors, **the Program does not provide for any reconversion plan** that will give credit, technical advise, and information on products and markets to the firms and the producers that run the risk of failing under the new conditions. **We need reconversion plans to ensure that these sectors do not fall and cause our national production to sink and our unemployment rates to rise. Why has the government not been able to achieve this for Panama?**

**4.3 The program does not establish important aspects of the policy that will govern the public service firms.**

The claimed privatization of Intel, which does not differentiate between basic services and more complicated ones, has not been fully substantiated. The **Program** does not determine how basic services will be extended to regions and areas that are not profitable for private enterprise but which are the responsibility of a modern and democratic state. The **Program** does not explain how we will ensure competition so that the current state monopoly is not replaced by a private monopoly, which is contrary to Article 293 of our Constitution and the requirements for a market economy. The **Program** does not outline how the state will regulate tariffs to protect users. The **Program** does not determine how it will ensure the rights of Intel workers.

The policy on Intel that the program proposes is one of the most improvised and unconsulted. This policy has to be revised.

The plans announced regarding IRHE are incomplete. A 10 percent cut in the electric energy rate for industry—the equivalent of approximately $6 million yearly—and those who use less than 200 kw/hour per month in their homes—$3 million yearly—has been promised.

The minister has failed to explain, however, that there are only two ways to make up for the loss of at least $9 million in annual revenue. One of them is dismissing hundreds of employees. The other is raising the electric energy rate for businesses and the other residential users, including the middle class. The minister said that IRHE's future expansion will be privatized, but this policy cannot be applied to La Fortuna hydroelectric plant or several other investments of a varied nature.

When it speaks about continuing with financial recovery, it does not specify when the government offices will pay the 70 million balboas they owe and when the IRHE will be able to make use of the 200 billion balboas deposited in the national bank in order to pay its debts. It does not mention either the true functional autonomy that the institution needs and which is currently blocked by the auditors' office and other bureaucratic procedures imposed by the Office of the Comptroller General.

**The policy on IRHE seems to be a sale tactic of the program to certain social groups, more so than an institutional modernization plan.**

**4.4 A plan for an overall and legislative reform of the Social Security Fund has not been presented.**

The government draft reform does not take into consideration the proposals of the CSS [Social Security Fund] Board of Directors in favor of the organizational and administrative reforms that increase its functional autonomy to prevent the repetition of past abuses. In addition, the draft is not accompanied by regulations on the Integrated Health System [SIS], as the Constitution provides, and that was promised by the ADOC presidential ticket in its **Agenda for National Reconstruction**.

The draft reform ignores several alternatives such as increasing revenues for the CSS, **particularly through the second payment of the 13th Month Bonus**, or gradually increasing the number of required payments that would make it possible to maintain the current retirement ages. The draft does not even mention the problem the CSS has in handling the Complementary Fund. The draft broadens the definition of salary for the effects of increasing the contributions by the employers and the employees, but it does not consider the effect of this expansion on the increase of retirment pension payments.

The beneficiaries are opposed to the reform draft because the legal trials of those responsible for the misuse of funds of the CSS have not been completed, nor have all efforts been made to recover such funds.

**The proposed reform to the Social Security law needs serious reconsideration to achieve acceptance by all the beneficiaries and the people in general.**

**Our people feel this is one of the most important aspects of any program.**

**4.5 The program omits many other important topics for the modernization of our economy, such as:**

**It omits any references to the Panama Canal and the reverted areas.** This is the case, even though both issues entail economically important aspects in the short term, for example, the possible decision on widening Gaillard Cut, as well as the U.S. decision to begin seriously reducing the Panamanian staff working on the military bases, in addition to the possibility of locating multisectorial export areas in the reverted areas.

**It omits any reference to the policy of importing petroleum and the fate of the refinery**, in spite of the fact the corresponding contract expires in 1992.

**It omits any reference to the administrative career**, even though the PDC already presented a draft law on this issue.

**It leaves in suspense the fate of the Mortgage Bank and the Agricultural Development Bank**, even though one may think the die has been cast.

### Endara on Criticisms

*PA2405183991 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 23 May 91 pp 1a, 14a*

[Article by Claudio Herrera J.—from the Editor's Desk]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara has noted that the criticisms made about Planning and Economic Policy Minister Guillermo Ford's economic program "have been superficial and of a political nature."

President Endara considers that the document presented by Ford on a television network incorporates "what everyone expected from the government: a specific program to modernize Panama's economy."

The president said that although it is only a "project," it is in its final stage, therefore, he ruled out any radical changes in the document.

Endara made these statements yesterday in Penonome when he awarded the site where the museum Arias-Madrid will be constructed.

The economic program has been rejected by the opposition Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD). The PRD legislators Alberto Aleman Boyd and Miguel Bush agreed that Ford did not disclose all the fine print in the aforementioned economic document.

The PRD legislators also noted that Ford—during his television presentation— mentioned the Agricultural Development Bank's (BDA) elimination, which duties shall be assumed by the National Savings Bank. [as published]

Aleman Boyd—who chairs the PRD wing at the Legislative Assembly—as well as Bush, participated in a meeting with Ford, upon his request.

According to the legislators, Ford did not mention in his television presentation the salary reduction for the 145,000 government workers.

Nevertheless, Ford did present the BDA elimination, as well as the reduced salaries issues to Aleman Boyd, Bush, and five other PRD legislators during a meeting.

The meeting took place on 17 May at 1400 at the Planning and Economic Policy Ministry's (Mippe) offices.

Ford had invited the diverse Legislative Assembly wings to meet with him to analyze the controversial structural adjustment program.

Meanwhile the labor sector—through the Coordinating Board for the Right to Life [Coordinadora por el Derecho a la Vida]—will organize a march on 29 May to protest the economic policies that the government plans to implement.

### Remarks Called 'Political'

*PA2405183591 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 May 91*

[Report on statement by President Guillermo Endara Galimany to unidentified reporters , place and date not given—passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara has said that the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, is opposing the economic plan as a political ploy.

[Endara] "They are forgetting that when they were in the government only a few months ago they approved, for the most part, the same plan. Now they are trying to make big differences out of small differences. They themselves promoted the plan, but now that they are in the opposition, they believe that they must oppose everything for the sake of opposition, which is absurd and negative for Panama. In reality they should act as patriots and view the situation as citizens who are really interested in Panama's progress. It seems, however, that they are only interested in their own benefit as a party, and are resorting to something as serious as using the economic plan as a political ploy."

PDC Secretary General Ricardo Arias Calderon said that the plan that the PDC approved in September of last year was completely different from the one presented today. In that regard, Endara said: "If he said so, he is lying. I have not heard his statement. The plan is not totally different, but substantially the same."

Meanwhile, there is a document in which the IFI [International Financial Institutions] specify that Social Security laws must be modified.

[Endara] "Social Security has nothing to do with the IFI. We must save the Social Security Fund not for the IFI, but for the Panamanians who pay their quotas. I have maintained the thesis that we must modify the Social Security Law and make sacrifices in order to save the institution, so that it will be the Panamanian people's last resource. This matter has nothing to do with the IFI. Forget it, the World Bank has nothing to do with this."

[Reporter] "I have a document which says that [words indistinct]."

[Endara, walking away from reporters] "No, that's not true. I disagree with you."

### Reaction to Plan Reported

*PA2405032991*

[Editorial Report] Panama City Spanish-language newspapers on 21 and 22 May carried news reports, commentaries, and editorials commenting on the 16 May speech by Second Vice President Guillermo Ford outlining the government's economic policy.

LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA on 21 May on pages A-1 and A-2 carries a 108-word report by Claudio Herrera on statements by Democratic Revolutionary Party Legislators Mario Rognoni, Alberto Aleman Boyd, and Miguel Bush. Rognoni states the plan has "its good and bad points." He says the people do not want the privatization state enterprises because they may "wind up in the hands of transnational companies." He does support, however, the plan to have a single tax rate to ease the burden of the middle class. Legislator Aleman Boyd says the elimination of the Mortage and Agricultural Development Banks has to be "thoroughly analyzed." Boyd and Bush concurred that if the savings bank aborbs the mortage bank, "there will be mass dismissals in the next four months."

EL DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE on 21 May on pages 13 and 22 carries a 4,000-word article by Luis Vejarano, which is critical of the Ford speech. Vejarano indicates the plan aims at paying a total of $840 million to international financial institutions to pay the interests of the foreign debt. He calls the measures "imposed" by these institutions "hamrful to the lives of the people who inhabit this continent."

The author says the Ford plan is similar to terms contained in the "Letter of Intention" approved in principle in 1984 by then president Nicolas Ardito Barletta, "who chose to withdraw the Letter rather than to perpetrate genocide against the people of Panama." He criticizes Ford for pledging funds to international financial institutions that could have been spent on solving "priority problems," such as electricity blackouts, water shortages, and the lack of hospitals. Vejarano also feels the government should sue the United States for compensation to repair damage caused by "bloody invasion of 20 December 1989."

He takes Ford to task for saying public employees of privatized state enterprises will not lose their jobs, supporting the elimination of the Price Control office, and for increasing the retirement age of women by five years. In his conclusion, he writes: "The challenges for the present and the future call on the government leaders to make deep corrective and social actions, which must not lose sight that our status as a free and sovereign nation comes before the aggravating conditions the international financial institutions want to impose on us."

EL PANAMA AMERICA on 21 May on pages 1A and 4A carries a 450-word editorial, the third in a continuing series on the government's economic plan, which says that there are two options available to the country to make its GNP grow at a higher rate, namely "to stress an inward or an outward orientation of the economy." The newspaper says the first option, which consists of increasing the price of imported products to encourage local industry, "entails impoverishment and stagnation." The second option, it states, "opens up practically unlimited horizons to the country not just to increase production, employment, and the living standard, but also to allow Panama to join the modern era, to expand the range of economic, political, and cultural freedoms to its citizens, and to become an active member of the more advanced international community."

"In specific terms," the editorial says, the first option would mean an unemployment rate totalling "one third the country's labor force," whereas the "accelerated development Panama can achieve in its exports of goods and services offers the possibility of achieving a sustained growth in the GNP of 8 percent or more."

On page 4a of LA PRENSA's 22 May there is a paid advertisement by the Association of Panamanian Industrialists [SIP], under the title "The Bases for a Strong Program." According to SIP, there are two basic aspects in the Economic Program for the Modernization of the Economy. The first is strictly financial because the agreement will not lead to a flight of capital. SIP adds: "This is important because, at least, it keeps financing available in the economy, decreases pressures of a possible recession, and gives the government the possibility of showing some achievements." It notes that the other aspect is not necessarily based on our ability to change the country's productive capacity, in the short term, to create a large supply of exportable goods.

SIP stresses that "changing the productive structure is a task that is very difficult to accomplish in 18 months, therefore, the emphasis must be placed on developing the multisectorial export zones."

SIP concludes, however, that the possibility that there will be a flight of capital within a short term is very high and that the possiblity that assembly plants be built in our country is very small, unless the United States becomes much more generous with its aid.

### Columnist on Martinez, Legal Assistance Treaty

*PA2405164291 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 24 May 91 p 6*

[From the "Improvisations" column by Alfredo Icaza]

[Text] An individual with a rather decent last name, Martinez, member of the Republican Party and close friend of Ronald Reagan, former actor and U.S. president, was here to impose, with the well-known Ambassador Hinton, several measures to be applied—almost like a purgative for the people—by the petty local government officials. This guy, Bob Martinez, is demanding, more or less, a new type of servilism from the current government. He also informed the well-behaved young men of government—who obediently

pay whatever has been or will be demanded with great fanfare by the U.S. loan shark banks—that they must meet the Yankee demands in the same old bootlicking manner.

All my life, I have sought to extol the homeland, striving for the higher ideals and, as a Rotary Club member, thinking and acting on behalf of others, only to experience the greatest of disappointments. What a misfortune! How much hypocrisy and what a vile materialization of selfish desires that sink the lofty soul of an entire people!

On to something else. Apparently, it will happen just as I predicted. Definitely, the MLAT [Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty] will not be approved by the Assembly. It is only natural, because the treaty undermines the natural and unpolluted sovereignty of our nation—always so mistreated and enslaved by the Yankee eagle.

A little patriotism, shrouded in a little dignity, will make it possible for the deputies, with their votes, to cast away this evil spell and bury this treaty, which is an insult against those of us who hold Panama in great respect. Such a treaty is but another act of treason against our homeland.

If a man does not raise his ideals to heaven, he is not worthy of a homeland, honor, or even children.

## Torrijos Reportedly Ordered Gallegos Killed

*PA2705161791 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1229 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] General Omar Torrijos reportedly confided to General Ruben Dario Paredes that he, Torrijos, had issued instructions to do away with Father Hector Gallegos and that the orders were executed in 1971 by Colonel Manuel Antonio Noriega, head of G-2 at the time.

The reference is included in an alleged letter addressed to Paredes in 1987 by Noriega, who replaced Paredes in the top G-2 position.

## Argentina

### CNEA President Advocates Continuing Research

*PY2405173791 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1827 GMT 19 May 91*

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 May (TELAM)—Manuel Mondino, president of the National Commission for Atomic Energy (CNEA), has said that the development of Argentine technology is the only way to face a new international order where "wars are fought through economics. If we stop our research we will merely guarantee our submission to the developed countries."

Mondino explained the current CNEA projects to TELAM. He said that it is "essential" to continue to develop nuclear technology. He disagrees with "people who want to solve our current economic problems without defining the kind of the country we want."

"We cannot miss the boat. Within five to 10 years we will feel the impact of research we failed to do," said Mondino, justifying the tasks of the CNEA and defending as an "investment" the research expenditures.

Regarding the export policy, Mondino reviewed the CNEA projects. He said that the most "important" project continues to be the agreement liaison with Turkey for the installation of two small reactors, one in Argentina and one in Turkey, using Argentine technology and Turkish financing.

Mondino added: "I believe that it is of great political value" that a "NATO member, unsuspected in the world, came" to Argentina to buy technology, a move that "reaffirms our level of conduct" toward the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

He said that as a result of this association "about 20" countries have shown interest in the use of the nuclear reactor for producing electricity.

The CNEA is also participating in a bid for the installation of an atomic center with an experimental reactor and labs in Egypt and is involved in advanced negotiations for supplying a similar reactor to Syria.

Advanced negotiations are also being carried out with Algeria to build a plant to produce fuel elements. A delegation from Morocco will also be arriving in Argentina to learn how to operate the small nuclear reactor.

All plants built abroad come under IAEA safeguards. Mondino added that Argentina is willing to discuss and make corrections to the Tlatelolco Treaty before signing it.

Next month the CNEA will submit their bid for the construction of a plant to make Cobalt-60 capsules for medical use which is to be built next to the cobalt-producing Embalse Nuclear Plant in Cordoba.

Argentina has 8 percent of the international Cobalt-60 market. It exports to the United States and Canada, and now plans to export Cobalt-60 capsules because of its high value.

Another business which is not economically relevant but important to the CNEA is the export to Germany of uranium dioxide, which is used for making fuel elements for nuclear plants.

### * Legal Background to Border Issue With Chile

*91SM0298A Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Apr 91 p 7*

[Report by Domingo Sabate Lichtschein]

[Text] On 6 November 1965, in the southern part of the Andean border between Argentina and Chile, a tragic event took place: Argentine gendarmes were forced to repel an incursion by Chilean carabineros into our territory at the place called Laguna del Desierto. An armed confrontation ensued, during which a lieutenant in the Chilean carabineros was killed. Another carabinero was wounded, and he was taken prisoner along with two others. This incident was reported in LA PRENSA and other Argentine newspapers in their editions at that time.

Until then, there had been no public knowledge of Chile's official claims to that territory, which that country's own maps showed as being within our geographical space. The incursion by those carabineros was a covert territorial claim that appeared to have been carried out without the backing of their government, and the episode concluded. But now it has resurfaced as an official issue.

#### Location

The disputed territory is a section of the Andes along the western border of our province of Santa Cruz. It covers the area between a place located to the south and along the southern edge of Lake San Martin (that is, from Boundary Marker 62 at latitude 48 degrees, 52 minutes south) and Fitz Roy or Chaltel Peak (at latitude 49 degrees, 16 minutes south), which is northwest of Lake Viedma's northern shore. Its surface area is approximately 532 square km (53,200 hectares). Within this area is a depression covered by runoff from the mountains; it is known as Lago del Desierto or Laguna del Desierto, and that name has come to denote the whole region.

#### Treaty of 1881

Orographical borders are most often determined by either the line of the highest peaks or the water divide, also called "divortium acquarum." According to the system that uses the line of the highest peaks, the border is determined by drawing a series of ideal straight lines joining the highest mounting peaks. Under the water divide system, the border is determined by a succession

of ideal lines that go between the sources of the watercourses produced by runoff, going down either side of the principal axis of the mountain chain.

The Argentine-Chilean border treaty of 23 July 1881 stated in Article 1: "The border between the Argentine Republic and Chile is, from north to south to the 52d parallel in latitude, the Andes Mountain Range." It went on to say, in the same article: "The borderline within this area shall run along the highest peaks of that mountain range where the water divides are to be found, and shall pass between the springs that emerge on either side."

The treaty adopted the divortium acquarum of the Andes as the border, using the line of the highest peaks as a basis, but in conjunction with the water divide. Nevertheless, the litigation arose because the Chilean representatives, during the demarcation of the border, tried to apply what was ultimately called the continental divide, which does not necessarily divide mountains, but rather the hydrographic basins of the continent. In other words, this system separates the watercourses that empty into the Atlantic from those that empty into the Pacific.

This was different from the standard set forth by geographers to determine orographic boundaries (which takes into account only the water divide of the mountains), because in the southern part of this border the continental divide in some places strays from the Andes Mountain Range and goes into the flat region of the pampas. It was also different from what had been agreed in the aforementioned Article 1 of the 1881 treaty and in Article 2 of the Argentine-Chilean border protocol of 1 May 1893, which had provided that "the Argentine Republic retains its authority and sovereignty over the entire territory that extends to the east from the principal chain of the Andes."

**1902 Arbitration Judgment**

Because they could not reach an agreement, the countries decided to resort to arbitration by the English monarch, who issued his judgment on 20 November 1902. This ruling covered several sections of the mountain range, and in setting the boundary the arbiter combined the local divortium acquarum with the continental divide and with some lines that allowed him to distribute the disputed territory. In some areas the local water divide was ignored, but it was used as the determinant in the Laguna del Desierto area. In this regard, the judgment stated that "the border shall run to the foot of that point" (the point that ends at the southern edge of Lake San Martin) "and shall ascend the local water divide up to Mount Fitz Roy" (Point 22 at the end of the arbitration report, which according to Article 5 of the judgment provides a more detailed definition of the borderline).

After the judgment was issued, the arbiter designated Royal Engineers Colonel Thomas Hungerford Holdich to proceed, in the company of the Argentine and Chilean experts, to demarcate the established boundary.

In the area in question, Holdich's assistant placed a boundary marker, number 62, at the foot of the point that ends at the southern edge of Lake San Martin, at longitude 72 degrees, 47 minutes west, pursuant to Point 22 of the arbitration report. Much later, the Argentine-Chilean border demarcation commission determined the contour lines and mapped the area in question.

With these elements, the location of Boundary Marker 62 and Fitz Roy Peak or Mountain, the local water divide between these points determines a boundary that begins at Boundary Marker 62, goes up the chain of hills between the basins of the Obstaculo and Martinez de Rozas Rivers to a peak at 1757 meters altitude, and from that point turns to the west, goes through the Laguna Redonda Pass and follows the chain of hills including the peak at 2003 meters altitude, continues through Trueno Peak, El Tambo Pass, Cagliero Peak, Gorra Blanca Peak, Marconi Pass, Marconi Chain, and Pollone Peak, until it reaches Fitz Roy Peak. That dividing line goes to the north and west of the disputed territory, which means that Laguna del Desierto and adjacent lands are to the south and east of the borderline. In other words, they fall within the territory that corresponds to Argentina under the judgment of 1902.

**Chile's Claim**

The Chilean Government does not accept this dividing line, however, except for the small segment that runs from the southern edge of Lake San Martin (Boundary Marker 62) to the peak at 1757 meters altitude. According to unofficial reports, Chile would have the border go from that peak to Fitz Roy along a line that includes Bonete and Tapia Peaks, among other points. It would skirt the disputed territory to the east and south, leaving Laguna del Desierto and the surrounding land to the west and north of that border and thus placing them within Chilean territory.

But this claimed border has no legal basis, because it is not the local water divide between Marker 62 and Fitz Roy Peak, as established by the arbitration judgment of 1902. Moreover, the Chilean Government cannot deny that it recognized the boundary set by that judgment, the dividing line that goes to the west of the disputed territory. This is so because this dividing line, which is in accord with Argentina's position, was included as the international border between Argentina and Chile on pages 4873 (Mount O'Higgins) and 4973 (Chaltel or Fitz Roy Peak) in the preliminary map of the Chilean Military Geographical Institute in 1953. And now Chile cannot disregard it.

**Why?**

Why does the Chilean Government insist on this claim? It is obvious to an observer of international politics that the reason is that its diplomats are trying to obtain an arbitration or compromise. And in every case in the past, it has obtained a portion of Argentine territory. We

cannot blame dynamic diplomats for engaging in such efforts with the backing of their government.

What we find blameworthy is the fact that these diplomats have sometimes had the aid of Argentine governments. On 22 July 1971, our government, led by Alejandro Agustin Lanusse, signed an agreement with the Chilean Government of Salvador Allende to submit the islands of Picton, Nueva, and Lennox to arbitration by the English monarch. It was already known that this arbitration would go in Chile's favor, because the case was similar to that of the Malvinas Islands, where a legal title is pitted against a usurpation. On 29 November 1984, responding to the demands of the Chilean Government of Augusto Pinochet, the Argentine Government of Raul Alfonsin signed a treaty giving Chile waters and islands on the Atlantic side of Tierra del Fuego and to the east of Cape Horn which belong to Argentina under the border treaties of 1881 and 1893. Certain Argentine presidents have been Chile's best allies in its territorial policy.

**Border Pillars**

Will the same old story be repeated? Is the Chilean claim that we have been discussing the beginning of something that will go on? The delineation and demarcation of our border with Chile have been difficult. When the task was begun, that border was not sufficiently well known, and no one had the means to perform the job. Despite that, the Argentine-Chilean border treaties of 1881 and 1893 established two supreme pillars: Argentina's exclusive sovereignty on the Atlantic side (and Chile's on the Pacific side), and Argentina's exclusive control to the east of the principal chain of the Andes (and Chile's to the west). The first pillar has been toppled by the territorial policy of the Raul Alfonsin government. But it could be said that the second pillar remains standing. For this reason, regardless of the sympathy that many of us Argentines feel for the current government of Chile, our people should not allow the initiation of a process that could affect Argentine sovereignty over the territory to the east of the principal chain of the Andes.

## Bolivia

### Spanish Foreign Minister Continues L.A. Tour

*LD2405192791 Madrid RNE-RE in Spanish to Europe 1930 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez held talks in La Paz today with his Bolivian counterpart, Carlos Iturralde, on cooperation projects between the two countries. During last year's Madrid visit, President Paz Zamora signed an agreement under which Spain promised to give the Andean country economic aid in credits and donations to the tune of $185 million. Bolivia is the second leg of the Spanish foreign minister's Latin American tour, the first having been Ecuador. The Spanish minister held talks in Quito with President Rodrigo Borja and with his counterpart, Diego Cordovez, with whom he dealt with bilateral relations and Spain's aid to combat the cholera epidemic affecting Ecuador after having started in Peru. Fernandez-Ordonez also analyzed with Ecuadorean authorities the summit of Ibero-American heads of state and government, which will be held next summer in Guadalajara, Mexico, and which will be attended by Spanish King Don Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez.

### Meets With Iturralde

*LD2405191691 Madrid RNE-RE in Spanish to Europe 1300 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez is in La Paz, Bolivia, following a three-day visit to Ecuador. In exclusive statements to RNE-RE, the Spanish foreign minister said the visit to these two Andean countries was indispensable and comes within the framework of the high priority given by Spain's foreign policy to the whole of Latin America. Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde, on his part, stressed that Fernandez-Ordonez' visit would make possible an assessment of the Hispano-Bolivian cooperation agreement, which is based on a program of credits totalling $200 million.

### Moreira Pledges To Support Constitution

*PY2505194691 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] President Jaime Paz Zamora today attended the main ceremonies to commemorate the 16th anniversary of the establishment of the Armed Forces command.

The ceremony was held this morning at the Miraflores barracks parade ground. It was also attended by the vice president as well as civilian and military officials.

The main speech was delivered by General Jorge Moreira Rojas, the Armed Forces commander in chief.

[Begin Moreira recording in progress] ...upheld by its cadres which are determined not to betray the confidence of Bolivians or to undermine the strengthening of the Armed Forces. This will be achieved by upholding and safeguarding the Constitution which is the true source of power that guarantees democracy and the maintainance of the principles of the different branches of the government. [end recordig]

## Brazil

### Iraq Seeks Resumption of Trade Relations

*PY2605205891 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 May 91 Economic Section p 7*

[Report by Aluizio Maranhao]

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro—Iraq has formally notified the Brazilian Government of its desire to resume commercial relations and has asked national companies to

participate in the bidding procedures for reconstructing the country's infrastructure which was seriously damaged in the Persian Gulf war. The message was conveyed to the Brazilian Government a few days ago by the Iraqi commercial attache Tariq Jibouri. [name as published]

According to diplomatic sources Jibouri appealed to Brazil to speed up its support for the UN resolution which does not completely lift the commercial embargo against Iraq but does liberate Brazilian food and medicine exports to Iraq. Only humanitarian aid was allowed before the partial lifting of the embargo. Now it is only necessary to report the business deal to the United Nations before shipping the merchandise.

If Brazil promulgates a law in this regard as it did when the embargo decision was made, Iraq will be able to import sugar, coffee, and frozen meat from contracts that were suspended during the war. It has been learned that last week Jibouri sent messages to the firms that signed the contracts reaffirming Iraqi interest in getting the products. [passage omitted]

The Iranian foreign trade company Balmin which opened a line of credit of $750 million (about 210 billion cruzeiros at the commercial exchange) for Brazilian exports also offers a great business opportunity. Sergio Sereno, Balmin representative in Brazil, said that there is still $500 million (about 140 billion cruzeiros) available for businessmen who want to export to Iran.

## Collor Addresses Cabinet Meeting 23 May

*PY2405135991 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television Network in Portuguese 1220 GMT 23 May 91*

[Speech by President Fernando Collor de Mello to the cabinet and party leaders at Planalto Palace in Brasilia—live; monitored in progress]

[Text] ...the continuity of our government work. Today I invited party leaders to attend the meeting with my team, and I would like to convey a very special greeting to these leaders. Your excellencies represent the legitimate expression of the people's wishes. This democratic government is an exercise of daily faithfulness, which the people demand through their representatives. At this meeting among your excellencies, my team, and myself, the possibilities and alternatives for meeting the people's demands will be frankly and openly analyzed, seeking above all to support the national interest.

There can be no democratic government without harmony between political and administrative action, based on dialogue and understanding.

Emphasizing our willingness to improve this harmony, I would like to open this meeting, which today will deal with the task of modernizing our country.

Mr. Vice President, ladies and gentlemen, time brings changes and course adjustments. This is essential for individual and collective life. History is dynamic and it calls for flexibility. Reality requires adaptation.

Changes are obviously limited by consistency. Consistency will always be an objective for my government; it will not be the vain consistency of those who refuse to face facts, but the honorable consistency of those who honor the commitments that were assumed in front of the entire nation.

Cabinet reshuffles are normal in a democracy. In a parliamentarian system of government, they are frequently caused by political and partisan contingencies. In presidential systems like our own, cabinet reshuffles are implemented for personal reasons, and especially when dictated by the president, who is empowered to introduce such changes. This is an exclusive constitutional power which is also a consequence of the mandate that was democratically granted by the people.

The recent replacement of my assistants in the economic sector took place with tranquillity, in an absolutely natural manner. The persons who joined the government are notably experienced and will enrich the management of our government program.

Ladies and gentlemen, in the more than 14 months since the government came to power it has shown in practice that it has consistently pursued its objective of leading the transformation of our country. We must continue to focus on our permanent objectives in order to evaluate what has already been done and to propose new courses and new lines of action.

The central objective remains the building of a modern, democratic, and socially just country. We will not copy models, but we do not intend to reinvent old solutions either.

Modern societies do exist. They are those in which the conquests of political, economic, and technological progress have been used to meet the aspirations for freedom and well-being.

The contacts that I held with major world leaders—particularly my long talks last week with King Juan Carlos and Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez—will help us build our own prospects and understand the challenges that lie ahead of us.

The effort to build a modern country, as in the case of Spain, must be shared by absolutely everyone. It is not a party effort. It calls for an agreement between political sectors around common objectives. The possibility that each party may propose its own alternative solution does not at all imply obstruction.

The effort to build a modern society no longer involves the victory of one class over another, but the discovery of forms of cooperation between them. Objectives should be chosen and sociopolitical consensus should then be reached around these objectives so that we can move forward with steady steps.

I would like to share a reflection on the development of the modernization process with my government team, party leaders, and society.

The first point to be clarified is that it is impossible to limit this process to the economy alone; it is a multifaceted phenomenon.

In the economic sector, the process calls for internal stability and competitiveness on the international market. I would like to reiterate here the priority which we attach to the fight against inflation, which always hits the poorer and those who live on salaries, thereby undermining our position before our partners.

I feel concern—and even indignation—about the selfish and foolish attitude of those who expect to take advantage of pending situations to make easy profits. This false expertise is the shortest road to disaster.

We freed Brazil of the threat of hyperinflation. It cannot be denied that a lot has already been achieved. The 1990 public deficit, which was expected to reach 9 percent of the GNP, turned out to be a surplus of 1.2 percent of the GNP. Reserves grew from $5 to $8 billion. The country recuperated its monetary policy instruments, financial speculation was eliminated, and some short- term investments are being used to promote socioeconomic development. Recent indicators show that we have already begun to reverse the recessive process.

The trade balance surplus has surpassed $1 billion a month and is now twice the surplus registered when I took office.

We have not given up the objective of getting Brazilian inflation down to a civilized level. There will be no truce or retreat in this fight, which will be absolutely decisive in the modernization of the country. To grow we must make our currency stable and trustworthy. To achieve this we will have to continue to implement a policy of monetary and fiscal austerity.

Clearly, we will not achieve our objectives overnight or through some kind of magic. The transition from the current price truce to a system of deregulated prices will be made calmly, gradually, and carefully. The cruel reality of uncontrolled prices will be defeated by our tenacity, because I know that this is the will of the Brazilian people. The experience accumulated over recent months shows that we must firmly and maturely insist on solving our problems through negotiation. The organized sectors of our society, which are working very effectively, will play a fundamental role in achieving this objective.

We will negotiate, but we will never be unfair. It is the government's duty to arbitrate conflicts and to conciliate divergent interests, but it would not be morally correct to intercede in favor of those who are already strong, thus harming the interests of the majority of Brazilians.

In summary, we have made progress in the economic field. The facts show that we are treading the right path. New ideas, however, will lead us to new achievements.

Mr. Vice President, Ministers, Secretaries of Government, Senate and Chamber of Deputies leaders, ladies and gentlemen, the second aspect of modernity is the social dimension. The poverty and disparities that exist in Brazil speak for themselves; no additional dramatization is necessary. The most serious problems must be attacked head-on and with courage. This is what we are doing through the Fellow Countrymen Project, which was launched two days ago. Through this project we will rescue thousands of street children to reinstate them into our society. The solution of the social problem—through a more just distribution of wealth and opportunities—is an indispensable condition for achieving a healthy economy.

The third dimension of the fight to achieve modernity is the political dimension. Modernity and democracy go together. We have already achieved democracy, and we must now improve it.

One of the main requirements in a democratic regime is respect for the state of law. Debates on the possibility of adopting the parliamentary system in the country are very healthy. One of the virtues of democracy is that it favors understanding. Freedom of opinion and freedom of criticism cannot be a closed, isolated phenomenon. Democracy must be open to solutions and achievements. Economic and political principles are similar in this sense. Beyond natural differences, we must establish a lowest common denominator to guide our actions, to help us meet the most immediate challenges, and to open up long-term prospects.

The meeting I held with political party leaders at the Alvorada Palace on 20 May is symbolic of the effort we are making to politically define what is economically feasible. The National Reconstruction Project known as Brazil's Big Project, which we have already presented to society, is stimulating public debate on the subject.

Ladies and gentlemen, the fourth dimension of the modernization process is the modernization of the government. There can be no modern economy or modern society unless they are served by an equally modern public sector with a reduced administrative apparatus which can effectively and ably solve the problems posed by the national reality and implement a long-term project to establish real dialogue among social forces. The government that we have inherited from centuries of history is exaggeratedly large and ineffective, with too much vice.

The solutions to these problems are clear:

To moralize and reduce the bureaucratic sector and to prove that it can supply good, efficient service to the people. This is what we are doing through the administrative and property assets reform [reforma administrativa e patrimonial], which is advancing and taking form;

To deregulate the life of society by redefining the role of the government and its presence in the everyday life of citizens. In one year the Federal Government deregulation program has created concrete measures to simplify the functioning of the economy and society itself. A very significant and symbolic result of this program is the abrogation of 106,000 decrees to date;

To begin an unprecedented enforcement of regulations. Never before in the history of Brazil has the executive branch made such an effort in self-discipline and self-control. We will only propose—after much thought and a long and detailed analysis—the rules that prove to be really indispensable;

To concentrate the attention of the public sector on the functions in which it can be more useful. This is the objective of the privatization program, which will turn over to the private sector the activities in which this sector has proved to be more effective. This cannot be done in a hurry because decisions about the final obligation of assets that belong to society must be carefully and firmly made. This is the kind of support the public sector will also give to the cultural activities of sectors which are not ready to function autonomously within the short or medium term;

To begin a profound moralization of the government. It must be said that cases such as that of the INSS [National Social Security Institute] show that corruption is prevalent not only in public organizations but also in certain sectors of society. There are no scandals in closed regimes; they are suffocated, proliferating covertly. When these scandals occur in a democracy they have repercussions; they are investigated and punished, and the mechanisms that allowed these scandals to occur are corrected. We must put an end to situations which cause these problems, making it possible to gradually enforce the morality and legality of social relations at the public and private levels.

Regarding the INSS scandal, the government is carrying out wide-ranging actions and is being totally implacable with persons who committed fraud. The government is also creating provisions that will make it very difficult for astonishing fraud cases like this recent one to ever occur again.

In modernizing the administrative apparatus and its role, the government has had the courage to implement unprecedentedly broad changes. We are aware of the significance of what has already been achieved and we are certain that we will be able to meet—unitedly and with solidarity—the remaining challenges.

Ladies and gentlemen, the fifth dimension of modernization is the international issue, which involves a more favorable reinstatement of Brazil into the international community. We have greatly improved our credibility and our image abroad, particularly in the fields of human rights, the environment, and nuclear policy. We are now strengthening our ties with other countries of the world and giving concrete emphasis to our integration with Latin American countries and the United States. We are also especially focused on finding a satisfactory solution to the issue of our foreign debt. As Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira has asserted, the debt negotiation will consider our capacity to pay, but we will face the problem from a broader point of view. We will attract foreign savings to finance our development and to ensure future credit.

The sixth and final dimension of modernization is the ethical dimension. We will not be a modern society until we admit that we must change some of our behavior patterns, that we must understand certain moral limitations, that the social disparities must be reduced, and that we must build a community in which the spirit of solidarity and civic obligation prevails. We must base our actions on the conviction that all Brazilians are responsible for the present and future of our nation.

The six dimensions that I have just listed are equally important. They are complementary and interacting aspects of modernization. The government's work is based on the idea that the construction of a modern country calls for simultaneous action on the following fronts:

There can be no economic stability without a political accord;

There can be no political accord without a consensus regarding the resolution of Brazil's social problems;

And there can be no resolution of the social problem without a moralized and renewed government.

Only when the government resumes its natural tasks and begins to effectively lead the changes that must be implemented will we have a modern country. Our international credibility depends on the results of the government's domestic action, and the opening of the country toward the international community will benefit national affairs.

In summary, the act of governing identifies itself with the capacity to harmonize the various aspects of the modernization process, avoiding mutual obstruction.

Unity and consistency of government work—and I am referring here to the absolute need for perfect coordination among the members of my team—and harmony between administrative and political action are the bases on which to build the success of our work.

National understanding is therefore absolutely essential. Only a twisted imagination could expect that drastic solutions outside the law, or actions involving impositions from one social group on another, are feasible in a democracy.

This is true for the government, for political leaders, for those who improperly increase prices and use public notary offices and advantages for favoritism, and for those who promote political strikes and irresponsible and authoritarian movements.

Democracy is against violence and imposition. Democracy compels everyone to engage in dialogue and negotiation.

As in all its activities, the government should also maintain exemplary behavior in the exercise of the democratic game, promoting dialogue as the foundation for the transformation of Brazil into a truly modern society.

May God continue to help us. Thank you very much.

### Strike Command Admits Failure of General Strike

*PY2405233691 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 24 May 91 p 14*

[Excerpt] The failure of the general strike staged by the CUT [United Federation of Workers] and the CGT [General Federation of Workers] was greater on the second day than the first because there were no picket lines at the gates of the bus terminal and buses were able to depart without problems. The single incident occured when police arrested four CUT militants for interrupting traffic at an exit ramp to Brasil Avenue, at Manguinhos. The militants block the ramp with tires and tirebusters. The strike command admitted failure when buses returned to the roads because there was then no way to prevent people from going to work. [passage omitted]

### Government Says Strike Failed

*PY2405174691 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Antonio Rogerio Magri, labor and social welfare minister, has said that the general strike called by CUT [United Federation of Workers] has failed. The minister said that on the second day of the strike, the commercial, banking, and private sectors operated normally throughout Brazil.

In Rio de Janeiro, only the railway sector joined the strike, while in Sao Paulo, bus drivers observed the strike but the number of pickets dropped in comparison with the first day of the strike. In Salvador, there were pickets in the downtown area, and in Brasilia, some 600 workers staged a march on the ministries esplanade late in the afternoon.

Magri blamed CUT President Jair Meneguelli for the harm done to society in these two days.

[Begin Magri recording] I do not mean to say that Jair should be held responsible for the incidents and vandalism that occurred because I am sure he made a mistake; he believed he could influence the masses. It is good for him to learn this because no one can influence the masses. As soon as the masses take to the streets they become unruly and you do not know what they will do.

I believe, however, that he does have to make an explanation to Brazilian society, to those who were left on foot in the streets, to those who...[Magri changes thought] with injured eyes, people who were hit by stones or bullets. He will have to explain this.

Now, I know he did not order those incidents. He cannot be blamed for them. He is to blame, however, for calling the masses to the streets without having control of them, and he has to explain this. [end recording]

Minister Magri added that the failure of the general strike is a step backward for the labor movement and that the days on which workers did not report to work should be deducted from their salaries.

### * April Industrial Production Up in Some Sectors

*91SM0297D Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Apr 91 p 10*

[Article by Salete Silva: "Industrial Production Increases, but Could Decline in May"]

[Text] Some sectors of industry increased production in April. Based on this month's sales, however—which according to the Commercial Association and the Federation of Commerce are below those for March—these increases will not be repeated in May. The businessmen interviewed by O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO say they are prepared for this: production is barely sufficient to fill orders, and inventories continue to be low. With the increase in demand last month, production in the plastics and paper industries—which supply companies that manufacture food products, electric household appliances, and packaging—this month increased by as much as 80 percent over the figures for the first weeks of February. Nevertheless, businessmen in several sectors say that production is still far below the figures for 1989 and that orders have not yet begun to come in. The companies in the worst situation are those that have ties to the automobile industry.

The paper industry reduced its production in September of last year and did not begin to recover the lost ground until February, when sales stabilized. In March its level of activity increased by 25 percent, and according to FIESP [Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries] Director Nicolau Jeha, of the Sao Roberto Paper Mills, the figures for production in April are better than those for March: toward the end of the month production increased slightly. "But we are producing only enough to fill the orders," he says.

The companies that manufacture food products are expected to maintain the same level of production in April that was recorded in March, which was 12 percent above that of February, according to Dante Galian, vice president of the Brazilian Food Industry Association (ABIA). Their inventories are sufficient for only one week, he says, and because of the high financial cost the companies need to maintain production. They must do so, he declares, "precisely because our projection is that the situation will continue to be difficult." The plastics industry performed well in the packaging and cosmetics sectors, in which

production increased respectively by 80 percent and 40 percent over the figures for February.

On the other hand, the suppliers of components for automobiles are working at only 25 percent of installed capacity. "Moreover, our costs are much greater than the final price," says Ricardo Max Jacob, vice president of the Plastics Industry Association. The rubber-goods industry is in a similar situation: sales declined in March by 52 percent from the figures for October, when sales were stabilized and the sector recorded $1 billion in total sales.

## Chile

### Communique Reports Pinochet To Return Today

*PY2405161491 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Army Commander in Chief General Augusto Pinochet will return to the country today. The Army press office has issued a brief communique stating that Pinochet has finished his institutional mission abroad.

Pinochet left the country on 10 May. During the tour, which could have ended on 5 June, he visited Brazil, Portugal, and Great Britain, where he stayed for some hours. He suspended his trip to South Africa in view of the fact that this country could not guarantee his security. Portugal is the country where he stayed the longest.

According to press reports, Pinochet ended his visit to Portugal with a dinner he hosted for French and Portuguese businessmen who invited him to visit that country. He was scheduled to return to Santiago yesterday, but other sources said he must go to Madrid to take a commercial flight to Santiago. Another source says that he will make a stopover in Montevideo and will go to Africa from there.

Army sources reported that Pinochet will return earlier because he has already met the objective of supervising contracts for the manufacture of material that the Army has signed with several international companies. In Portugal he met with representatives of military industries from Portugal, France, and probably, Switzerland. He went to Great Britain to visit a Royal Ordnance facility that is developing a project on an artillery rocket with the Chilean Army.

### Notes Satisfaction With Tour

*PY2505015691 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] General Pinochet expressed satisfaction over the results of his 13-day [as heard] tour of Brazil, Portugal, and Great Britain. Pinochet, who was welcomed at the VIP room of Pudahuel airport by the Army command, said that he only carried out negotiations on military matters during his tour of three countries.

[Begin recording] [Pinochet] The tour was very positive and pleasant. All the objectives were met.

[Unidentified reporter] Are you satisfied, General?

[Pinochet] I am happy, very happy. This was an special invitation extended to me by European arms manufacturers to get acquainted with new weapons and also to examine possibilities for their selling us their weapons. Progress has been made in this respect because we are in a process of adjusting the [words indistinct]; we also wanted to see that...

[Reporter, interrupting] Will there be a major purchase?

[Pinochet] I cannot talk too much about these matters because they are secret. [end recording]

Pinochet commented on other aspects of the trip which was not exempt from controversial statements. It was said that he was isolated in locations he visited.

[Begin recording] [Pinochet] People greeted me with great feeling in all places I visited; I was not isolated.

[Reporter] General, does this mean that you will soon make another trip abroad?

[Pinochet] I do not know. I do not go touring. I make trips only when somebody invites me or when I have a professional problem. I do not use public money to go touring. I say this for those who are saying things.

[Reporter] General, your trip to South Africa was suspended.

[Pinochet] It was suspended because South Africa had very serious problems. I will not be the one who will go to create another problem with the security [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Is there another chance for you to visit that country?

[Pinochet] I was said... [changes thought] to go there... [changes thought] They told me from South Africa that they will invite me in the future. [end recording]

Pinochet arrived 20 minutes late because the landing was delayed by heavy fog. He began his tour on 10 May, and he was authorized to stay abroad until 5 June. He said that he declined to visit South Africa because of lack of security in that country.

A Portuguese newspaper said today that Pinochet reportedly denied that his eight-day visit to Portugal was aimed at purchasing a countryhouse for future occupancy.

## Colombia

### Justice Minister on Escobar, U.S. Extradition

*PA2605035791 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] Justice Minister Jaime Giraldo Angel was asked to comment on a statement made by Bob Martinez, U.S.

antinarcotics czar, that Colombia is legislating for specific cases. Here is an interview conducted by Teresa Rueda in Bucaramanga, Santander Department:

[Begin recording] [Rueda] Have decrees been modified or will decrees be modified in order to facilitate Pablo Escobar's surrender?

[Giraldo] Not at all. The government's policy has no names attached. It is a general policy for everyone under those conditions.

[Rueda] Is the government willing to give Pablo Escobar a jail with the security conditions he demands?

[Giraldo] The government has offered jails with the necessary security conditions to all those who surrender. A visit to the Itagui Jail would show you the conditions that exist there.

[Rueda] Do you think that the problem of drug trafficking and narcoterrorism in our country will end with Pablo Escobar's surrender?

[Giraldo] No. You have hit upon the difference between the two. I believe that, since the decrees were issued, the problem of narcoterrorism is being settled positively. I feel that the country has had a respite in the absurd war we were facing, and that, except for the regrettable death of Minister Enrique Low Murtra, there have been no more terrorist actions of that nature.

[Rueda] Have U.S. legal authorities requested Pablo Escobar's extradition?

[Giraldo] I have no knowledge of such request. The Justice Ministry has not received it. [end recording]

### Police Suspend Arrest Operations for Escobar

*PA2605185791 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1235 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] Justice Minister Jaime Giraldo Angel has reported that the police operations to seize Pablo Escobar Gaviria have been suspended to avoid interfering with the drug trafficking kingpin's surrender. Giraldo said the authorities are acting cautiously and responsibly to avoid thwarting Escobar's surrender.

In addition, the minister said that a special prison will be outfitted in Envigado, Antioquia Department, as Escobar had requested through Father Rafael Garcia Herreros, who has been in contact with the Medellin Cartel chief.

### Serpa To Resign Constituent Assembly Presidency

*PA2705202391 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] A true political storm has just broken out at the National Constituent Assembly with the decision by Horacio Serpa Uribe, a Liberal Party member, to step down from the Presidency of the Assembly.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Why have you made this decision?

[Serpa Uribe] Last Saturday and throughout this weekend, Carlos Lemmos Simmonds, a distinguished Assembly member and known Liberal leader, suggested that the Liberal Party withdraw from the Assembly's Board of Directors.

It seems that this is sufficient political reason for me to go to the Liberal Party faction and ask its members to analyze the situation, and also to tell them that they have my immediate and irrevocable resignation from the post I am holding as my party's representative.

[Reporter] In addition to Lemos' proposal, do you have any complaints about the other political parties in the Assembly that they are reaching agreements in the halls behind your back?

[Serpa Uribe] That is a different story. We mentioned this at the plenum on Saturday. Why? Because, one time, when we were members of a commission, political agreements were reached outside the commission and we found out about them through the media.

We do not want something similar to happen with this commission that promotes agreements. There have been some, quote, coincidences, unquote, we have observed in the Assembly halls and we believe this is not in line with the seriousness demanded by Colombia's political situation.

[Reporter] Where will you resign, here at the Assembly or during a special meeting with Liberal Party delegates?

[Serpa Uribe] We will hold a meeting with Liberal Party members at noon today. If the party decides that we must withdraw, then I will submit my resignation to the Assembly this afternoon. [end recording]

It seems that this is a crisis within the Liberal Party faction, rather than a political crisis inside the Assembly.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] We are at the National Constituent Assembly and we have Lemos Simmonds with us. Mr. Lemos, you have been mentioned as the person who called for Serpa Uribe's resignation. Do you think it is healthy for the Liberal Party to have Dr. Serpa Uribe resign?

[Lemmos Simmonds] I think so because the joint Presidency was the result of an agreement. It was the first agreement reached. Some of us disagreed with it. As soon as the agreements were broken, then, logically, the initial agreement becomes superseded because of new actions. In addition, how can there be any new agreements when we all know that Dr. Alvaro Gomez Hurtado said that the mandate has been irrevocably revoked. Given that this decision is irrevocable, this naturally means that the Liberal Party is no more than a mere spectator [convidado de piedra] in the face of decisions that were made earlier. Under these circumstances, I think that Dr. Serpa would be playing the role of a joker or a lame duck

within the Presidency of the Assembly. That is something I do not wish for him as a person, because of my profound respect for him, or for the party he represents because it is a very respectable party, at least to the majority of the country.

[Reporter] Thank you, Dr. Carlos Lemmos. We also have here Dr. Jaime Castro and we will discuss Serpa Uribe's decision with him. Do you think it is opportune for him to resign.

[Castro] He has not resigned yet. He addressed a letter to his Liberal Party colleagues explaining the issue and asking us if we feel he should withdraw or remain in the Presidency. I personally feel that the presence of Serpa or any other Liberal Party member in the Assembly is not the issue. What is at stake is the possibility of reaching political agreements on topics that require such agreements. These agreements would make our deliberations and decisions easier. Whether Serpa remains in the Presidency or not will have no repercussions on the agreements. [end recording]

### Assembly Ratifies Serpa

*PA2805040391 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 May 91*

[Report by Carlos Arturo Paez; recorded passages in quotation marks]

[Text] Constituent Assembly President Horacio Serpa Uribe, member of the Liberal Party (PL), started a controversy within his party. On 25 May, conservative newspapers coincidentally reported the existence of an agreement to dissolve the congress. According to those reports, the agreement was reached at several dinners without consulting the Liberal Party and outside the Negotiating Commission [Comision Gestora], the only valid forum recognized by the Assembly.

On 25 May, PL Constituent Assembly members tried to begin a debate on the subject, but the motion was not accepted by the plenary. Therefore, Delegate Carlos Lemmos proposed that the PL withdraw from the Board of Directors.

Today, Serpa Uribe submitted his resignation before the 25 delegates of the ruling party. In that regard, Constituent Assembly Member Carlos Ossa said:

[Carlos Ossa] "I believe that Serpa was trying to clarify his position as president of the Assembly, because it was very difficult for him to work without his party's support."

Horacio Serpa achieved his goal. After a lunch that lasted several hours, he was unanimously ratified, even by Constituent Assembly Member Carlos Lemmos, who said:

[Lemmos] "I stated my position. I explained why I thought that Serpa should resign. There is nothing personal. I admire and respect him. I feel that the PL had to express its position, validating him."

At the same time, the PL announced its withdrawal from the Negotiating Commission and agreed to begin contacts at the highest level. Here is a statement by Serpa Uribe:

[Serpa Uribe] "If the other sectors are willing to discuss all the other topics, the PL is also ready."

### Assembly To Redouble Work To Meet Deadline

*PA2405122791 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] Bogota—The Conservative Party's independent bloc in the National Constituent Assembly has made the surprise proposal that the current congress be dissolved and new elections be called. According to this initiative, elections would be held next March to elect governors to a two-year term, mayors to a four-year term, and municipal assemblymen and councilmen to a two-year term. Elections would be held next May to elect the members of the Chamber of Representatives and the Senate for a four-year period. For that reason, the mandate of the current lawmakers would last until June 20. The National Constitutent Assembly decided to redouble efforts to meet its 5 July deadline; they will work on Saturdays and holidays and if necessary, also on Sundays. The deputies will only have 10 minutes to speak, and those that are introducing motions, 20 minutes. The deadline for bringing proposals to a first debate is 19 June. For that reason, some topics already agreed upon will be processed at an accelerated pace.

## Paraguay

### President Congratulates People, Parties

*PY2805030691 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 2342 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] President Andres Rodriguez has congratulated political parties and independent movements on yesterday's elections. The people's conduct ensured our democracy, the president told reporters at Government Palace this morning.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] The municipal elections held throughout the country yesterday were the most important political event in the last few years. Commenting on and praising the elections held in the country, President Rodriguez said that Paraguayan democracy is the winner.

[Rodriguez] I am very satisfied and I believe you and all Paraguayans also feel that way about the unique experience lived in the country yesterday. Despite some shortcomings and minor irregularities that may have occurred, I have verified that our fellow countrymen—the Paraguayan voters—stoically and patiently overlooked these difficulties and reached the polling places to place their votes in ballot boxes and thus elect their candidates. This is very flattering and I am comforted by the excellent attitude and behavior of all voters. I would

like to take this extraordinary opportunity to admit that the minor abnormalities, I would say shortcomings, that may have occurred were simply the result of our lack of experience in this type of thing.

I am sure that the observers from three different international organizations who came to observe the first municipal elections ever be held in our country have a good impression of the conduct of the Paraguayan people and the elections. I do not want to evade the responsibility of admitting that there may have been some administrative and organizational irregularities. It would have been very hard to do everything entirely correctly because this is the first time we have held this type of nationwide election—in the capital and in the rest of the country. [end recording]

The president said: I believe our country has benefited greatly from these elections because we are aware that democracy has been the winner. This is why we can be proud of having held this unique event in our country. The elections were supported by conscientious, responsible citizens who fulfilled their duties as voters, he added.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] I admire all the Paraguayan people and am very satisfied with their patience in putting up with the small inconveniences we had during the elections. Commenting on that, the foreign observers—some of whom observed the 1989 elections and are now here for the second time—said they were surprised to observe the enthusiasm and fervor of all voters who went to polling places to vote freely, without being forced to do so or urged to do so. They were also surprised at the joy and euphoria shown by people about the outcome of the elections and at the smoothness of these elections, which are of fundamental importance for our country's future. We must be proud of the behavior and attitude of all political parties that took part in these elections. I would thus like to earnestly congratulate all political parties that shared such an important moment for our nation. We can be optimistic about our country's future. If the Lord and the Virgin Mary help us, I am sure we will have a better tomorrow. Thank you. [end recording]

### Parties Reject Elections Due to Irregularities

*PY2705002091 Asuncion RPC Television Network in Spanish 2205 GMT 26 May 91*

[Excerpt] We have a report by Lilian Barrera from the Febrerista Revolutionary Party headquarters:

[Barrera] Hugo Richer [of the Popular Unity group] is going to read a document. We understand that this is a resolution.

[Richer] The resolution is contained in the note I will read now. The resolution says:

Mr. President of the Central Electoral Council: The individuals who signed this resolution, and who represent political parties and movements would like to address you and the members of the Central Electoral Council to reject the elections held today, and to request a call for new elections.

The reasons for our request are based on the following points:

a. Voters lists with precise information were not available at the polling places or to the political parties and movements at the appropriate time.

b. The lack of advance appointments of the members of the voting tables, the untimely changes, and substitutions of the voting tables prevented the participation of poll watchers.

c. There was disorder and confusion in finding the names of voters on the voters list of some districts. This created confusion, and many people were not able to vote because they spent their time going from place to place looking for the voters list with their names but without finding any solution to their problem.

d. Voting tables were set up late, equipment was lacking, some members of the electoral board were absent, and the voters lists arrived late. The law grants some tolerance for late arrival, but the tolerance was not respected.

e. The elections were not held simultaneously in all the electoral districts, and this created serious irregularities. Therefore, the use of the indelible ink, which was not indelible, was useless.

f. Political parties and movements were not given draft voters lists while the party precincts of the Colorado Party did get them. This situation gave that party an electoral advantage, thus ruining equality.

g. Public transportation was not available. This situation prevented voters from going to the polling places.

h. Thousands of voters did not vote because they did not find their names on the voters lists for their jurisdiction. However, some voters, in a biased manner, received all kinds of help.

These irregularities—the suspension of the right to vote and depriving the people of their rights—force us to request new elections under fair conditions and under clear procedures by eliminating privileges, abuses, and distortions of the legal framework. This is the only way the elections will be legal and the democratization process of the country will be guaranteed.

Signed by the representatives of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party, Christian Democratic Party, the Labor Party, Popular Unity, and the Free Fatherland Movement.

[Barrera] Which parties did not sign the document?

[Richer] The Above Color [Mas Alla de los Colores] movement headed by Gustavo Hellmers, the Asuncion for All Movement, and the Authentic Radical Liberal Party indicated that they need a little more time to

evaluate the situation before makaing a decision on this resolution. [passage omitted]

### OAS Election Observers Release Communique

*PY2705162491 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 27 May 91 Special Supplement p 10*

[Text] The OAS observers mission released a press communique last night expressing their opinion on yesterday's municipal elections. The text of the communique reads as follows:

The OAS observers mission, which is made up of 47 international representatives, attended the 26 May elections in Asuncion and the main cities in the interior.

On the basis of information available at 2200 on the observed municipalities, the mission wants to make public the following preliminary statements:

1. The municipal elections were characterized by the great interest and participation of the Paraguayan people.

2. There was, in general, ample freedom of expression throughout the electoral process and the popular will was expressed in the elections.

3. Important components of an important electoral process were, in general, present and respected; namely, secret ballots, access to voting sites, the absence of violence or coercion, the use of indelible ink, the presence of party poll watchers and party representatives, and clear counting procedures, as well as other elements that legitimize a democratic poll.

4. Numerous irregularities of a technical-organizational and logistic nature were noted, but not to a degree or level that would invalidate the observed polls. These irregularities have to do with delays in opening polling stations, late deliveries of voter lists or necessary materials, errors in voter lists, and unannounced changes in voting sites.

5. The observer mission awaits with interest the authorities' decision on rescheduling the elections in the municipalities in which they were postponed and/or suspended.

That is the text of the communique released by the OAS observers mission.

### Candidate Charges Voter List Tampering

*PY2705034491 Asuncion RPC Television Network in Spanish 0216 GMT 27 May 91*

[Speech by Juan Manuel Morales, candidate for mayor of Asuncion for the ruling Colorado Party, to supporters gathered at his campaign headquarters in Asuncion—live]

[Text] Fellow party members:

In the face of the electoral results disseminated by the media, first of all we want to state our surprise over the figures that are being mentioned. As proof of what we are saying, we can state that the number of Colorado Party members who were able to vote in this election is smaller than the number that voted for my candidacy alone in the Colorado primaries, let alone the total number of voters including those who voted for Juan Ernesto Villamayor.

All this leads us to believe that the voter lists have been tampered with, and I can state that many party members have not been included on the voters lists, including members of the Colorado Executive Board, senior legislative officials as the president of the honorable Chamber of Deputies, who is here with us; Juan Roque Galeano, political secretary of the Colorado Executive Board, who is also here with us; and many other deputies and senators and members of the Colorado Executive Board.

We will have to investigate this situation, and we will adopt those measures that are most appropriate to clear up the issue. I want to take this opportunity to convey my gratitude to all those fellow party members for your enthusiasm because, even though you were disappointed over not being able to vote, you have kept your faith in your party. I urge all the party precincts and subprecincts and neighborhood committees to continue to keep their faith in the Colorado Party because, despite this setback, it will continue to be the best option for our country.

I must also add that after the investigation we intend to conduct, we will make a decision that will be in the best interests of the party and of the country.

The fact that the large number of party members supporting us was unable to vote substantiates the statement we made earlier about a technical tampering with the voters lists. It was surprising to see busloads of Colorado Party members wandering around the city without being able to vote. [applause]

This shows that although we accept that in democracy an electoral bid is won by that party obtaining the most votes, before giving a conclusive opinion it will be important for us to conduct the appropriate investigation because it is impossible to accept that so many Colorado members had to stoically visit virtually every polling place to cast their vote, but they could not vote because either they could not find their names or because their names were simply not included on the lists. [applause]

In making this statement, we are not questioning anyone's victory or failure, but we want an investigation because we cannot so easily accept that the Colorado Party was unable to obtain more than 27,000 votes in Asuncion. This is not possible, and we have to find the reasons for it so that we may adopt the appropriate solutions.

If we take an average of 2,000 members for each precinct, we should have had 75,000 votes. Yet, at this time

we were not even able to get 27,000 votes. Thus, the use of the voter lists was truly surprising. It was truly sad to see our party members wandering around the city of Asuncion, and we felt powerless to find solutions to allow them to vote. This problem affected even members of the Colorado Executive Board, the vice president of which had to go to three polling places to see where he was supposed to vote.

In the face of this problem and of our commitment to the Colorado people, we believe we have to make every effort to investigate and to clear up this situation. As soon as we have a clear picture of the problem, we will adopt a decision that will be in the best interests of our party.

Thank you all, much happiness to all Colorado members, and let us move ahead. [applause]

### New Industry Minister, Petropar President Named

*PY2305185891 Asuncion Radio Nanduti in Spanish 1840 GMT 23 May 91*

[Relay by Teresa Boser]

[Text] Important changes were made today in the cabinet of President Andres Rodriguez. [Current under secretary of industry and commerce] Ubaldo Scavone has been appointed minister of industry and commerce replacing Antonio Zuccolillo who has now been named presidential economic adviser. Ubaldo Scavone was also the acting president of Petropar [Paraguayan Petroleum, Inc.], from which he recently resigned, and Emilio Ramirez Russo has been named to replace him. The decrees with the new appointments are expected to be released at any moment.

## Peru

### Fujimori Confirms Intervention of Exchange Rate

*PY2405195491 Lima Radio Nacional del Peru Pachacutec Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] President Fujimori has announced that the government has adopted several measures to stop the dollar exchange rate from climbing. He said that one of the measures will be to extend for six months the deadline for companies to deposit severance pay contributions.

[Begin recording] [Fujimori] There is great demand for dollars by companies so that they can make severance payments. Thus, we are extending the deadline for their deposits so that the demand for dollars will not be concentrated in just one month.

[Unidentified reporter] How long will the extension be?

[Fujimori] We are studying this, probably six months. In third place—there are three measures—we yesterday instructed the Central Reserve Bank [BCR] to intervene in the dollar exchange market. The BCR has funds, not the ideal amount but enough funds. From a deficit of $140 million it has risen to a surplus of $560 million. Therefore the BCR can intervene the exchange rate market to stop the climbing dollar exchange rate. This means that these three measures will allow the economy to find equilibrium.

[Reporter] Was the BCR responsible for the latest dollar exchange rate increase?

[Fujimori] No, the BCR has bought dollars in the past few weeks, seeking to establish a better exchange rate for the productive sector, especially the mining sector which has experienced serious losses. However, in the past few days the BCR has made no meaningful purchase of dollars. Therefore, we do not rule out the possibility that the BCR may adopt measures in this respect.

[Reporter] This means that a climbing dollar exchange rate will affect the inflation so as [words indistinct]?

[Fujimori] By the end of this month the administration may [word indistinct] one or two points because some products are imported. However, the important point is that we are seeking an equilibrium with [word indistinct] economic parameters. We hope this [word indistinct] devaluation will not (?strain) the administration. There is no doubt that, in a certain way, the exchange rate devaluation has not run parallel with inflation; devaluation has been much greater than inflation. Therefore, these corrective measures seek a balance and also, simultaneously, a slight reactivation of the productive apparatus. [end recording]

### Prime Minister Questioned on Drug Accord

*PY2405191491 Lima Radio Nacional del Peru Pachacutec Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies approved two lists of questions for Prime Minister Torres y Torres Lara on the signing of an antidrug agreement with the United States. One of the lists of questions was prepared by the United Left with contributions from other political parties and the other list was prepared by the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] party. The Chamber of Deputies agreed to invite Torres y Torres to attend Congress on 28 May.

### Bolivian Foreign Minister Arrives for 3 Days

*PY2605024891 Lima RTP Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde has arrived in our country for a three-day visit. He was met at the airport by his Peruvian colleague, Carlos Torres y Torres Lara.

[Begin recording] [Iturralde] We are going to discuss all pending problems that exist between Bolivia and Peru, and in addition we have new ideas that we have already started to discuss with the foreign minister. Now we are

here to see how they can be implemented because, as you well know, diplomatic relations between the two countries have top priority.

[Reporter] What topics of binational interest will you discuss?

[Iturralde] One topic will be Lake Titicaca, the development of the common altiplano. Another topic will be southern Peru as related to where southern Peru and Bolivia meet. So there are many topics to discuss.

[Reporter] Mr. Minister, Bolivia, like Peru and Colombia, is very important in drug trafficking. How are you resolving this problem, which is very critical in the Andean countries?

[Iturralde] Regrettably you have said it. [laughter] I want to say this: What we have to do with this problem, which is very serious for all of us, is to try and deal with the three aspects at the same time.

[Reporter] Mr. Minister, what topics are you going to specifically discuss with your colleague?

[Torres y Torres] Well, basically we have three topics of common interest, as the foreign minister has said. We have economic, trade, and financial topics.

[Reporter] Will an agreement be signed within the framework of the Bolivian minister's visit?

[Torres y Torres] Yes, without a doubt we will sign a document that will contain the results of the talks that we are going to hold. The experts and representatives from our two Foreign Ministries have already been holding talks over the past few days. [end recording]

### Shining Path Company Commander Arrested in Lima

*PY2405181291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1633 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] Lima, 24 May (EFE)—Peruvian antiterrorist police today reported the arrest in Lima of a leading member of the Maoist Shining Path group. The arrested terrorist is believed to have murdered 41 soldiers and 26 policemen. Juan Carlos Galvan Alvarez, 25, was arrested by agents of the Counterterrorism Division (Dircote) in Ate-Vitarte, a Lima suburb, in mid-May.

According to police, Galvan is responsible for several attacks and ambushes in San Martin Department, in the northeastern jungle of Peru, during his six years as a Shining Path member. The police said Galvan is commander of the "3d Company" of the so-called "People's Guerrilla Army," a Shining Path group that has carried out actions in the jungle departments of San Martin, Huanuco, and Ucayali. A total of four Shining Path "companies" have carried out activities in those departments in Peru's Amazon jungle.

Dircote, which has released a detailed report on the subversive actions in which Galvan was allegedly involved, says he started as a "combatant" for the Maoist group, then became a platoon chief, and finally, headed the "3d Company."

Dircote has turned Galvan, aka "Tony," over to the courts. According to the police, he has confessed to his involvement in the killing of 41 soldiers and 26 policemen.

### Bomb Explodes at Economy Ministry; No Casualties

*PY2705190091 Madrid EFE in English 1851 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Lima, May 27 (EFE)—A bomb exploded in the Economy Ministry building in the Peruvian capital 27 May, causing damage but no casualties, police said. The explosion hit the Tax Supervision department, where workers were on strike to demand departmental reorganization.

Also 27 May, unidentified attackers set fire to files in the municipal office of the San Martin de Porras District of Lima.

Authorities said the attacks may have been the work of either of two leftist guerrilla groups, the Shining Path or the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement.

### Bombs Damage U.S.-Peruvian Cultural Institute

*PY2505121691 Madrid EFE in English 0734 GMT 25 May 91*

[Excerpt] Lima, May 25 (EFE)—A wave of bombings and arson attacks rocked Lima after suspected leftist guerrillas dynamited eight power towers, blacking out most districts of the Peruvian capital for more than an hour, police said.

Attackers later on 24 May hurled bombs at the U.S.-Peruvian Cultural Institute and at the offices of the state-owned water and electricity companies in central Lima, causing damage but no injuries, they said. In separate attacks, six city buses were set on fire.

The violence came after suspected leftist guerrillas dynamited power towers 40 km from the capital, leaving most Lima districts and two towns located some 200 km to the south without power for an hour. [passage omitted]

### * Teachers 'Missing' Due To Terrorism in Junin

*91WR0209E Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 15 Apr 91 p 14*

[Text] Huancayo, 14 April (EXPRESO)—Sixty elementary and high school teachers have been declared missing in the central jungle, the Educational Services Unit (USE) revealed today.

Authorities say that many of the teachers who have disappeared have left the area as result of threats or have joined the terrorist ranks, while another group has fled due to fear of repression exercised by military forces, which describe the teachers as activists from the two

groups that have risen up in arms (Shining Path and the MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement]).

Education authorities say that 40 percent of the department's school population has still not registered, while in Chanchamayo, 15 schools have been closed because not a single teacher has shown up to date.

This picture can be observed in the native towns of Satipo Province, where many teachers have not returned to educational activities they were to resume in March.

Of the 345,000 students that should attend class in the Department of Junin Monday morning, only 60 percent can do so, according to the Department of Junin Department of Education.

In cities in the department, schools have been 40-percent fumigated, but in rural areas, nothing has been done to date to prevent cholera.

Nor are there economic resources, as a result of which the first decision to be made by the Caceres region assembly to begin in Jauja on Monday will be that of setting the amount to be used to disinfect schools, fix hygienic services, and install silos in towns where emergency program resources amount to 5 percent.

The situation is problematic mainly in Chancahamayo, Satipo, Yauli (La Oroya), and Junin. In the latter, it has been established that the 6 de Agosto National School, with an enrollment of 1,000 students, has only repaired 20 percent of its hygienic services.

Combined with this is the work of terrorists, who have warned leaders of parent organizations not to collect a cent to repair services or premises of any of the schools.

### * Fujimori's Counterterrorist Role Draws Response

*91WR0209D Lima EXPRESO in Spanish*
*19 Apr 91 p 3*

[Article by Pedro Salinas]

[Text] In connection with the announcement of Prime Minister Torres y Torres-Lara to the effect that President Fujimori would assume leadership of the Unified Pacification Command (CUP) and the Operative Command Against Subversion (COCS), EXPRESO spoke with a number of politicians, military men, and scholars on the phenomenon of subversion in order to learn their opintions on the matter.

#### CUP in Regions

Rolando Ames (MAS): The prime minister's announcement expresses a determination to face up to terrorism. This means a change in the government's attitude toward the phenomenon. The president is the right person to lead the fight against terrorism. With respect to the political instrument to be used (CUP), I think it must have the capability and responsibility at the highest level. It must be a kind of high commission that will coordinate with the different ministries. The COCS must be coherent in its operational actions with what is dictated by the leadership.

Creation of the CUP means recognition of the fact that we are confronted with a phenomenon that cannot be dealt with in an exclusively military fashion. This must be repeated on the regional level. Political-military commandos must be replaced by a collective entity that will be represented by the military head of the zone and the local and regional authorities.

#### Operational Leadership

General (retired) Luis Cisneros Vizquerra: "It troubles me that President Fujimori has described Shining Path as "the right arm of drug trafficking," because this statement could take political substance away from the announcement made by the prime minister. One might deduce that the phenomenon has still not been totally understood. The other possibility is that it is a statement of "convenience," to put in another way, in the context of current negotiations relating to the antidrug agreement.

President Fujimori must lead the war politically, but operational leadership is not up to him. The clearest example is the Gulf war. President Bush presided over the war, but the operational leader was General Schwarzkopf.

#### Legal Status of Organizations Created

Raul Gonzalez (DESCO [Center for Development Studies and Promotion): It is a positive thing for the president to personally assume strategic leadership of the fight against insurgency as well as operational leadership. In this way, the government has made it manifest that the war is not exclusively a police and military problem.

I think it is necessary to clarify certain important aspects. The questions would be as follows: What strategy will be applied? To what sphere will priority be given? Which geographic zones will receive special attention? How will the CUP function in terms of the Central Government? Finally, how will the operational level shape up? I hope that these organizations which the president has proposed to create will soon have legal status.

#### Good Intentions Not Enough

Senator Raul Ferrero (Freedom): It is correct for the president to personally assume leadership of the CUP. I hope this political intention will not just remain suspended in air and stop at good intentions, as happened with President Fujimori's announcement (28 July 1990) on creation of a High Commission on the Protection of Human Rights, which has still not materialized to date.

Concerning the Council for Peace, I think it must be made up of representatives of all sectors (political forces, the Church, academicians, social organizations, and so on). It must be organized in turn by a kind of Executive Committee.

**COCS Headed by Civilian**

Santiago Pedraglio (IU [United Left]): The decision is a positive one. The key is in the political leadership. Let us recall that there have already been two peace commissions that failed. The strategy must be political and, above all, democratic. This means that civil society must play a protagonistic role. Without the participation of civil society, I do not think the antisubversive strategy can function.

In addition, I think the president must assume leadership of the CUP, but not of the COCS. COCS must be headed by a civilian and his function should be that of administering and daily coordinating the orientations of the CUP, which must emanate from the Council of Ministers. For its part, the Council for Peace must be characterized by pluralism in its formation. And within the constitutional attributions of the president, Fujimori should begin by waiving Order 24150 (referring to political-military commandos). The civilian authority must prevail throughout the national territory.

**CUP Incorporate Civilians**

Miguel Talavera (IDL [Legal Defense Institute]): The measure is a healthy one. This may in the end mean a change in the antisubversive strategy.

The CUP should be a place for discussion that incorporates civilians who know the issue, given the fact that to date, the strategy has been handled exclusively by military men. The CUP must in the end have decision-making capacity over the armed forces.

## * Plan To Arm Peasant Patrols Prompts Reaction

*91WR0209C Lima CARETAS in Spanish*
*22 Apr 91 p 23*

[Text] On Sunday, 14 April, in a town in Mantaro Valley known as Comas, EP [Peruvian Army] General Luis Perez Documet, head of the Junin emergency zone, took the first steps in the new phase of the war against terrorism.

To all able men of that community and neighboring areas, he issued 450 12-gauge, single-shot Winchester shotguns.

Perez Documet will eventually hand out 950 shotguns and 96,000 shells in the Mantaro area.

However, the program to provide defensive weapons to peasant patrols organized and supervised in accordance with an elaborate military system will apply to the entire country.

Some 3,110 shotguns and over 300,000 shells will be distributed in the area of Huamanga. Huallaga will receive 200 shotguns, since many peasants there already have their own breechloaders, and Ucayali will get 30.

The decision has been controversial.

Objections came from the far right, through Patricio Ricketts, for example, and the left, from Javier Diez Canseco and others.

Ricketts doubted the legality of giving "weapons of war" to the civilian population. It so happens, however, that the shotguns in question are far from being war weapons!

The left argues that the weapons will be used for other purposes, specifically, to settle land disputes.

However, CARETAS has for years reported on the successful use of militias in conflicts such as the Malaya uprising. One seasoned newsman, Gustavo Gorriti, makes a very valid pair of observations:

"One detects an undertone of racism and distrust in the people's peasant organizations that is surprising, particularly when it comes from the left. Few doubt the need of private enterprise to defend itself and hire the services of specialized agencies, but when it is a matter of peasants, they shout their heads off! Why should they be any less truthworthy? Frankly, I would have more confidence in a farmer defending his life's work and his wife and children than I would a Zarzar or Zanatti!"

## * State of Emergency Extended in Departments

*91WR0209B Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish*
*24 Apr 91 p A10*

[Text] The state of emergency has been extended for another 60 days in several provinces of 11 of the country's departments, jurisdictions in which the measure was originally adopted due to the prevailing situation of violence and in an attempt to restore law and order.

The extension applies to the Departments of Apurimac, Huancavelica, San Martin, Junin, Pasco, Ayacucho (except Huamanga Province), Huanuco, and Ucayali, as well as Ucayali Province in the Department of Loreto, the Quimbiri districts of La Convencion Province in the Department of Cuzco, and Yurimaguas in Alto Amazonas Province in the Department of Loreto.

The state of emergency was extended by a supreme decree published in EL PERUANO stating that the reasons resulting in the measure still existed and that it was necessary to restore law and order.

The order also states that the armed forces will continue to maintain domestic order in the departments, provinces, and districts in question.

The order provides for suspension of individual guarantees provided for in paragrahs seven (inviolability of the home), nine (the right to choose freely where one will live), 10 (the right to meet peacefully while bearing weapons), and 20 (no one may be arrested without a written warrant backed by a judge or police authorities in flagrante delicto) of Article 2 of the Constitution.

## Uruguay

### Minister Resigns, Causes 'Political Crisis'

*PY2505021891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0010 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] Montevideo, 24 May (EFE) — Public Health Minister Jose Alfredo Solari resigned today, and his resignation has unleashed the most important political crisis within the government coalition headed by Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle. The coalition came to power 14 months ago.

The Uruguayan Government has a presidential system, but Lacalle, the second chief of state of the National Party in 100 years, did not achieve a majority in Congress in the recent elections. He therefore allied himself with the Colorado Party, the main opposition party that has traditionally governed the country.

The alliance between the two parties emerged with the naming of three ministers from as many factions of the Colorado Party.

Solari, who belongs to the group headed by former President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, resigned today after Lacalle threatened to fire the ministers that belong to the congressional groups that do not approve the state reform law.

The group of congressmen that support Sanguinetti opposes state reform in the form of the privatization of state enterprises without bidding procedures that would guarantee the selection of the best offers.

In remarks to the press, Sanguinetti blamed Lacalle for "saying" that Sanguinetti's political faction was to blame for the failure in Congress of the state reform project.

Moreover, Sanguinetti stressed that despite the fact that his political group does not have anyone in the cabinet, he will maintain the "same spirit of cooperation" with the Lacalle government, although Sanguinetti stressed his right to "disagree reasonably."

The political crisis within the government coalition is not only with opposition sectors, because Lacalle, who arrived back home on 23 May from a trip to Paraguay, Canada, and the United States, is facing difficulties within his own party. Several National Party congressmen also rejected the government's privatization proposal.

### Juan Andres Ramirez Named as Health Minister

*PY2505172091 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 May 91*

[Excerpts] The resignations of the public health minister and the public health under secretary unleashed a political crisis in the country in the last few hours. [passage omitted]

As of yesterday, Dr. Juan Andres Ramirez is the new public health minister.

## Suriname

### Elections Office Releases Unofficial Results

*PY2705215691 Paramaribo Radio Suriname International in English 1730 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Contrary to the elections of 1987, the New Front for Democracy and Development didn't receive an overwhelming victory at the general elections of last Saturday, 25, in Suriname.

Even though the final results are not yet known, the Central (?House) Elections Office gave the following temporary results: New Front, 30 seats; NDP [National Democratic Party], 12 seats; DA [Democratic Alternative], 9 seats.

Almost 68 percent of the electorate went to the ballot boxes last Saturday, 25, in Suriname. In the districts, more than 70 percent of the electorate went to vote, while in Paramaribo it was 63 percent. There were no reports of mentionable incidents.

### New Front Victory Announced

*PA2605162191 Paris AFP in Spanish 1537 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] Paramaribo, 26 May (AFP)—It was officially announced in Paramaribo today, Sunday, that the pro-civilian New Front, a coalition of the three traditional ethnic parties and the Labor Party, won 29 of the 51 parliamentary seats that were being disputed in Suriname's elections on 25 May.

The Democratic Party, which is linked to the military, took a net loss. It obtained 14 seats, while the center-left Democratic Alternative 91 took the other eight, according to the official results with 90 percent of the polling stations reporting.

According to these results, electoral participation was 64.28 percent throughout the country.

### Results Detailed

*PA2605043591 Paris AFP in Spanish 0333 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] Paramaribo, 26 May (AFP)—The New Front (NF), a coalition of the traditional parties that was ousted by the Army last December, is winning the elections in Suriname, according to the first partial returns. However, the NDP [New Democratic Party], a party linked to the military, is leading in several of the 10 districts.

All of the votes have been counted for the district of Coronie, in the northwestern part of the country and on

the shore of the Atlantic. Its two seats in the parliament (of 51 seats) have been shared by the NDP and the NF:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| NF | 593 votes | 1 seat |
| NDP | 438 votes | 1 seat |
| PALU | 438 votes | 0 seat |
| DA | 412 votes | 0 seat |
| Others | 22 votes | 0 seat |

The PALU is the Progressive Union of Workers and Peasants, while the DA is the Democratic Alternative, a coalition of small parties of the center left.

In Wanica, a district south of Paramaribo, the vote counting is almost completed and there are seven seats to distribute. The NF had 5,798 votes, which would give it five seats, the DA had 1,636 votes, for one seat; the NDP 1,314 votes, for another seat; while the PALU and the other parties obtained few votes.

In Saramacca, a populated district in the country's central-west region, where 40 percent of the votes had been counted, the NF had 1,935 votes—which would give that party the three seats in that district—the NDP 643 votes, the DA 242, and the PALU 80.

In Sipaliwini, in the southern part of the country, the NDP was ahead with 697 votes against only 167 for the NF. Should that trend continue, the NDP would win the four seats in that district.

In Para, southwest of the capital, the NDP had 183 votes, which would give that party two seats; while the NF, with 158 votes, would have the third seat.

In the eastern rural district of Marowijne, where the antimilitaristic "Jungle Commando" guerrillas operated for years and where abstentionism is expected to be high, the NF was ahead in the initial results (84 votes, which would represent two seats if this trend continues) followed by the NDP (34 votes, with possibilities for one seat).

According to the NF, that coalition could win up to 36 of the 51 seats in the assembly, assuming that the NDP would only obtain four or five seats, which was not the trend shown by the results up to midnight (0300 GMT Sunday).

The final results will depend on the distribution of the seats in Paramaribo, the country's main district, where 17 parliamentarians will be elected.

The parliament will elect a new president and vice president of the Republic.

### NDP Leader on Results

*PY2705221491 Paramaribo Radio Suriname International in English 1730 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Although the NDP [National Democratic Party] had expected more seats in the National Assembly, this party is glad with the outcome of the election. According to faction leader Frank Playfair, the party can realize more in the assembly with 12 seats. Playfair, however, regretted the fact that the PALU [Progressive Union of Workers and Peasants], which according to him should be in the National Assembly, didn't win a seat

The NDP (?foreman) is of the opinion that the hard work his party executed was very fruitful. The policy of Vice President Wijdenbosch in the past four months, which was focused on the nation, has also contributed to the explosive growth of the party, as well as the work done by the (?three-man) faction of the NDP at the present National Assembly.

The NDP is together with the [words indistinct] with 12 seats or the majority of seats for individual parties. Despite the fact that the NDP did not gain in the elections, it will, according to Playfair, do its utmost to honor the promises it made to the people. The NDP is not willing to cooperate with the new government, but it will do so only on the basis of a national reconstruction program. Twenty four and half thousand voters voted for the NDP.

### Observers Call Elections 'Clean'

*PY2505174891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1647 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] Paramaribo, 25 May (EFE)—Today the Surinamese people are electing new National Assembly members, who, within 30 days, will name the country's president and vice president to replace the provisional government of Johan Kraag.

The polls give 27 percent of the votes to the Front for Democracy and Development; 20 percent to the National Democratic Party, which supports the military; and 11 percent to the Democratic Alternative Coalition [Coalicion Alternativa Democratica]. According to the poll, 35 percent of the electors do not have any preference.

The elections are supervised by OAS observers who assured that the pre-electoral process "was clean" despite some reports of irregularities in the registration of some people with the right to vote. In addition to the OAS observers, delegations from the EEC, the Socialist International, and the United States have also arrived.

The government of Johan Kraag was imposed by the military leaders after the 24 December 1990 coup.

### Coalition Doubtful

*PY2705223491 Paramaribo Radio Suriname International in English 1730 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] The New Front is of the opinion that it will almost be impossible to compile a coalition for the NDP [National Democratic Party] as well as DA 91 [Democratic Alternative 91], as was made known before the elections that they will not cooperate with old politicians.

The National Democratic Party has, through its section leader at the National Assembly, Frank Playfair, declared that cooperation with the New Front may be possible on the basis of a national reconstruction program. The NDP doesn't agree that soldiers should participate in politics, but will cooperate in the scratching of two articles in the Constitution which regulate the position of the National Army and the military authority. The democratic (arise) of the soldiers must, however, be guaranteed, said Playfair.

[Name indistinct], leader of the (words indistinct) of DA 91, doesn't exclude the forming of a coalition with the New Front. The party should, however, be consulted by the New Front. DA 91 should also decide on the composition of the Council of Ministers and negotiations should be held on the nominees for the presidency and the vice presidency.

DA 91 supports the (run) of (T.D. Chan) of the New Front as president. Its candidate for this post is the present chairman of the Audit Department (Hans Tradem). DA 91 wants the Constitution to be changed on more issues than indicated by the New Front.

The coming days will clarify the composition of an eventual coalition and the election of the president.